

Reagan rejects demand for apology

BOISE, Idaho (R) — President Reagan on Tuesday rejected demands by Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak that he apologise for hijacking an Egyptian airliner carrying the four accused hijackers of the Italian cruise liner Achille Lauro. Asked by reporters as he arrived for a speech here if the administration had anything to apologise for, Mr. Reagan replied: "Never." But he refused comment on the state of relations between Egypt and the United States after U.S. warplanes ambushed the Egyptian plane and forced it to land at a NATO base in Sicily. Reporters travelling with the president's plane were told there would be no apology to the Egyptians. The four Palestinian commandos accused of holding the Achille Lauro, its 427 passenger and crew hostage for 52 hours last week are being held in Italy where they will face charges.

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'Force 17' says Israeli pilot killed

ABU DHABI (R) — A Palestinian commando group said on Tuesday it had "executed" an Israeli pilot who took part in the Oct. 1 air raid on Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) headquarters in Tunis. A statement purportedly from "Force 17" said its members tracked down Pilot Zak Zilman Shason in Nablus on the Israeli-occupied West Bank Monday night and killed him after he confessed to flying in the raid. Asked about the report, military officials in Tel Aviv said no Israeli had been killed in the West Bank this week. The "Force 17" statement, made available to news organisations by Palestinian sources here, did not say how the alleged killing was carried out. "A group of martyrs... of Force 17, succeeded in carrying out the execution of Pilot Zak Zilman Shason who bombed the organisation's headquarters in Tunis," it said.

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Majali leaves London for Sofia

LONDON (Petra) — Deputy Prime Minister Abdul Wahhab Al Majali left London for Sofia on Tuesday to lead Jordan's delegation to the 23rd meeting of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) which started in the Bulgarian capital on Oct. 8. Mr. Majali was in London for a meeting with British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe. He and Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri were received by Sir Geoffrey Howe after Britain called off a meeting between the secretary and a joint Jordanian-Palestinian delegation.

Arafat meets Aziz in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (AP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat flew in Tuesday and met with Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz. It was reported here. The Iraqi News Agency said Mr. Arafat, accompanied by his aide Salah Khalaf (Abu Iyad), discussed with Mr. Aziz the "development" of relations between Iraq and the PLO in the light of recent developments in the region. It did not elaborate. Mr. Arafat arrived here from Sudan.

Sudan, PLO to press for summit

KHARTOUM (AP) — A Sudanese-Palestinian delegation that will include one of Yasser Arafat's chief advisers will go to Saudi Arabia to discuss the need for convening an Arab summit on schedule, Defence Minister Major General Osman Abdallah said Tuesday. Gen. Abdallah told the state-owned newspaper Al-Sabah that the delegation would convey to King Fahd the Sudanese and Palestinian viewpoints that the Saudis should guarantee a consensus will be available for convening a summit in late November.

Israel convicts Golan Druze of spying

TEL AVIV (R) — A Druze from the occupied Golan Heights was convicted by an Israeli court on Tuesday of spying for Syria, state radio reported. Rafiq Jalani, 20, from the village of Majdel Shams, was convicted in the Nazareth district court of crossing into Syria in April and giving information on Israeli military installations to a Syrian intelligence agent. Golan Druze, many of whom have relatives in Syria, have vehemently protested at the Israeli occupation and have opposed efforts to give them Israeli citizenship. The Golan was occupied by Israel in the 1967 Middle East war and later annexed by Israel.

Syria refutes Israeli claim

DAMASCUS (R) — The U.N. Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) on the Golan Heights, on Tuesday denied any incident occurred recently between Syrian and Israeli forces across the cease-fire line, the official Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) reported. A military source in Israel said on Monday that Syrian troops opposite the Golan Heights last week fired a ground-to-air missile at an Israeli warplane and Damascus later "apologised" for the incident.

King: Cancellation of London meeting is regrettable but Britain acted honourably

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer
with agency dispatches

HIS MAJESTY KING HUSSEIN said on Tuesday that the cancellation of a planned meeting between the British foreign secretary and two senior members of the PLO was regrettable but Britain acted honourably in calling off the meeting.

In an interview broadcast on Independent Television Channel 2, King Hussein said there were no last-minute alterations to a previously agreed statement that the two PLO delegates were expected to meet in London after the meeting with Sir Geoffrey Howe.

Mr. Howe, calling off the meeting on Monday, said the British government could not go ahead with the talks with the two PLO officials after they refused to endorse the statement repudiating

violence and recognising Israel's right to exist.

King Hussein on Monday refused to blame any party for the collapse of the meeting.

"If there was a misunderstanding in terms of one member of the Palestinian delegation not having been aware of what was happening, it is certainly neither our fault nor anyone else's fault and is indeed very regrettable," the King said.

The King, on a private visit to

London, said he would have to reassess Jordan's Mideast peace initiative, launched last February with the PLO.

"I feel when we go back to our part of the world we will have to reassess our position, look at the problem once again with the PLO, with the Palestinian people, with others and see what went wrong and how it can be corrected," he said.

"But people have been suggesting I might have been pushing peace too quickly. I don't think one could do that. I think the crowning achievement of my life would have been and will be, God willing, the establishment of a just and durable peace in our area and I don't think it is fast enough in coming yet."

King Hussein denied widespread reports in the British press and from the opposition Labour Party that the meeting had been called off because of pressure from Washington.

"I think this is ridiculous really to suggest that this would have been the case," King Hussein said.

The King said the British government "acted very honourably" by cancelling the session with PLO. Asked if Jordan was ready to abandon the PLO and continue the search for a peaceful settlement with another "Palestinian substitute," the King said: "The PLO derives its strength from being able to express and embody the hopes and aspirations of the Palestinian people."

"But if it (the PLO) did not represent the hopes of the Palestinian people I do not believe that it (the PLO) would have a place (in the peace process)," he said. "I hope that the PLO will continue to express the hopes and aspirations of the Palestinian people," he added.

He said failure to achieve peace in the Middle East would be "a disaster that will overcome all of us in our area and maybe in fact the world."

Britain denies U.S. pressure was behind cancelled meeting

LONDON (R) — Britain has rejected suggestions that it bowed to American pressure when it abruptly cancelled talks planned for Monday with two executive members of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe and Junior Foreign Office Minister Malcolm Rifkind, speaking on British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) Radio on Tuesday both said that the Reagan administration had not raised the issue.

"I can say unequivocally and without qualification that at no time did the Americans make any representations to us, at any level, to cancel the visit," Mr. Rifkind said in an interview.

Britain cancelled the talks after one of the PLO officials, former West Bank Mayor Mohammad Milhem, had gone back on a pledge to endorse a statement renouncing "violence and terrorism" and explicitly recognising Israel's right to exist, he said.

"We received an unequivocal and explicit assurance that the text was acceptable to all four members of the delegation including the two Palestinians," Mr. Rifkind said.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, keen to breathe life into the Middle East peace process, invited Mr. Milhem and Bishop Elias Khoury for talks with Mr. Howe as part of a Jordanian-PLO delegation. She described both as men of peace.

The hijacking by Palestinian gunmen of the Italian cruise ship Achille Lauro and the alleged death of an American passenger put the spotlight on Mrs. Thatcher's invitation, which Israel bitterly opposed.

The meeting was designed to support the joint Jordanian-PLO peace initiative activated by the Feb. 11 agreement.

Mr. Howe and Mr. Rifkind were responding to comments on the cancellation from former Labour Foreign Secretary Denis Healey.

Mr. Healey said on the radio: "The root cause of it was what I call doormat diplomacy. When President Reagan says 'jump' Mrs. Thatcher says 'how high?'"

A spokesman for the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr. Robert Runcie, spiritual head of the world's 60 million Anglicans, disputed the government version of

(Continued on page 5)

Thatcher is not the only loser; Arab press labels Britain a 'U.S. toy', page 2



REGENT RECEIVES CHINESE TEAM: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday confers with a delegation from the Chinese Institute of International Affairs. They discussed

Middle East developments and aspects of the Palestine problem and Prince Hassan explained Jordan's position on the region's current affairs and problems (Petra photo).

Efforts under way in Damascus to identify body found at Tartous

DAMASCUS (AP) — U.S. diplomats were trying on Tuesday to determine whether the body of an elderly man washed ashore near the Syrian port of Tartous is that of New Yorker reportedly killed during the Achille Lauro hijacking.

The body, which initial reports said apparently had been in the sea for several days, was found on Monday near Tartous, 112 kilometres northwest of Damascus, and was brought to the Syrian capital on Tuesday.

U.S. officials believe Leon Klinghoffer, 69, a crippled New York Jew, was shot dead by Palestinians

who hijacked the Italian cruise liner in the Mediterranean Oct. 7. His body was reported dumped overboard while the vessel lay off Tartous the next day as Syrian officials refused to allow the vessel to dock.

The hijackers, now in Italian custody, have denied they killed anyone during the two-day hijack. "American and other Western diplomats are busy trying to identify the body," said a Western diplomat who spoke on condition he was not named.

"We guess it's Klinghoffer," the

(Continued on page 5)

Arafat leads anti-U.S. protest in Khartoum

KHARTOUM (AP) — Police fired tear gas on Tuesday to keep demonstrators away from the U.S. embassy after Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat accused President Ronald Reagan of trying to stop the PLO by killing its leaders.

Speaking to more than 40,000 anti-American demonstrators, the chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) vowed that "the Palestinian revolution is alive in the Arab conscience in spite of the imperialist and Zionist conspiracies."

Reagan has decided to assassinate the PLO leadership in the belief that by so doing, the revolution would come to an end. Mr. Arafat said. "This is not so. The Jihad (holy war) and the armed struggle will be escalated."

The demonstration in front of the presidential palace was organised by the Sudanese National Alliance, a grouping of political parties and professional and trade unions, to protest U.S. policies toward the Palestinians.

After Mr. Arafat spoke, a group of demonstrators broke off and headed towards the American diplomatic mission less than two kilometres away.

Trucks and riot police blocked roads leading to it, and the demonstrators were dispersed in a cloud of tear gas.

A delegation went to the embassy before the rally to deliver a memorandum protesting recent events in the Middle East including Israel's Oct. 1 raid on the PLO's Tunis headquarters and the U.S. navy's hijacking last Friday of an Egyptian airliner carrying four hijackers of an Italian cruise ship.

Mirghani Al Nasri, chief of the Sudanese Lawyers' Union who was a leader of the agitation that brought down President Jaafar Numeiri last April, led the delegation. He said he and two other members waited for 40 minutes at the embassy gate but nobody responded.

Freij urges Arafat to call truce in commando war

TEL AVIV (R) — Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij, a prominent Palestinian leader in the occupied West Bank, urged Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat on Tuesday to declare a truce in its commando war against Israel.

Mr. Freij made the call as Palestinian leaders in the West Bank and Gaza Strip voiced disappointment over the cancellation on Monday of a meeting in London between British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe and two

PLO officials.

Mr. Freij said he would urge Mr. Arafat "to declare a truce between Israelis and Palestinians everywhere."

"He has to do something to solve it and he's the only one who can," he told Reuters.

The mayor, a consistent advocate of Israeli-Palestinian talks, said a truce "would be a very positive response to the events we have been witnessing the past two

(Continued on page 5)

Lebanese foes reportedly reach peace agreement

DAMASCUS (AP) — Lebanon's various factional militias reached agreement under Syrian sponsorship on Tuesday to end the 10-year-old civil war that has claimed more than 100,000 lives. Syrian officials reported.

The officials, who declined to be named, told the Associated Press that representatives of the three factions hammered out the accord in the fourth round of talks they held with Syrian Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam.

Terms of the new agreement were not spelled out. Officials said the negotiators were expected to announce details at the end of a fifth meeting at Mr. Khaddam's residence later Tuesday.

Tuesday's accord is expected to pave the way for a tripartite conference by the leaders of the three militias chaired by Syria.

Representatives of the mostly Christian "Lebanese Forces,"

(Continued on page 5)

Ghali: Egypt will continue peace efforts despite crisis with U.S.

CAIRO (Agencies) — A cabinet minister said on Tuesday Egypt will continue to seek Middle East peace despite a crisis in relations with the United States.

At the same time, a leading columnist wrote that Egypt may "forget and forgive" the U.S. hijack on an Egyptian plane carrying four Palestinian hijackers to Italy if President Ronald Reagan quickly sponsors tangible moves toward Arab-Israeli peace.

"Recent events in the region such as the Israeli air attack on the Tunis headquarters of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the interception of the Egyptian civilian plane will not affect Egypt's political will to seek a comprehensive and just peace in

the Middle East," Butros Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, told reporters.

President Hosni Mubarak said on Monday those events had placed "serious obstacles on the road to peace," but he stopped short of saying Egypt would halt its peace efforts.

Reviewing Mr. Mubarak's four years in office, Dr. Ghali said: "Egypt has attained many objectives during Mubarak's presidency, and it will work for the supreme objective of overall peace."

Mr. Mubarak took office on Oct. 14, 1981, eight days after the assassination of President Anwar Sadat at a military parade in Cairo.

Mustafa Khalil, a senior political aide to Mr. Mubarak, told the Associated Press that the Middle East peace process is "to the benefit of all concerned, including the United States."

Mr. Khalil was premier between 1978 and 1980 and actively participated in negotiations that led to the signing of the Israeli-Egyptian treaty in 1979. He currently is deputy chairman for foreign relations of the ruling National Democratic Party, which Mr. Mubarak heads.

(Continued on page 5)

Egyptian captain says U.S. jets flew dangerously close; Kuwaiti lawyers protest against Israeli. U.S. actions, page 2

Andreotti explains to Shultz why Abu Abbas was freed

BRUSSELS (Agencies) — Italy's foreign minister gave U.S. Secretary of State George P. Shultz a detailed explanation on Tuesday of why Rome released a senior Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official sought by the United States.

Mr. Shultz reiterated that the U.S. government was disappointed in the Italian decision and had a different understanding of the events leading up to the release, according to an Italian spokesman quoted by the AP.

Mr. Shultz and Giulio Andreotti met for about 30 minutes before entering a special North Atlantic Treaty Organisation meeting to discuss U.S. preparations for the November superpower summit between Soviet leader Mikhail S. Gorbachev and U.S. President Ronald Reagan.

Italy had requested the Shultz-Andreotti meeting in an effort to ease the diplomatic strains that have developed in the aftermath of the hijacking last week of the Italian liner Achille Lauro.

The Italian spokesman said Mr. Shultz told Mr. Andreotti that the Reagan administration recognised that Italy was making strong efforts to fight international terrorism.

But after hearing Mr. Andreotti's explanation Mr. Shultz reiterated that the Reagan administration still could not understand why Italy freed Mohammad Abbas (Abu Abbas), a PLO official whom the United States contends helped plan the seizure of the Achille Lauro in which an American citizen was

Palestinians, Israelis clash near Ramallah, 4 hurt

OCCUPIED WEST BANK (Agencies) — Four people were hurt Monday night in a clash between Palestinians and Israeli soldiers on the occupied West Bank, police said.

A soldier was hurt when Palestinians hurled a fire-bomb at a bus carrying soldiers as it passed Al Atwari refugee camp, east of Ramallah. Three Arabs were injured when the soldiers fired at them after they failed to stop, ignoring warning shots and orders, police said.

Israel Radio on Tuesday reported that the condition of five detainees in Nablus prison has deteriorated following a hunger-strike that began eight days ago.

The five detainees, the radio said, have been transferred to a prison hospital for treatment. The five were among 45 Arabs detained

in the prison who went on hunger-strike in protest against ill-treatment and for indefinite detention without trial, according to reports. The report said the Israeli authorities have threatened to transfer the detainees to Beersheba prison in southern Palestine if the hunger-strike continued.

In Umm Al Fahm town, meanwhile, inhabitants staged a demonstration on Tuesday to protest heavy taxes imposed on them by the Israeli authorities and poor municipal services, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said. Reports from the town said that the town's streets are dirty and schools have been closed for five months because the municipality has not been able to pay teachers salaries.

Peres sees 'turning point' in Mideast peace talks

VIENNA (R) — Israeli Prime Minister Shimon Peres believes the Palestinian hijacking last week of the Achille Lauro will make it easier for Middle East "moderates" to talk peace, his spokesman said Tuesday.

"The PLO (Palestine Liberation Organisation) was caught red-handed," spokesman Uri Savir told Reuters. "Once this is exposed this can make it easier for us, the Egyptians, the Jordanians and those Palestinians who are not engaged in terrorism to come to the negotiating table."

Savir spoke after Peres, in Vienna for 24 hours before going to Washington for talks with U.S. leaders, entered a meeting of the Socialist International (SI).

"That is something he might express here, but it will come up in a more operative way during his talks with President Reagan and the American administration," Savir said.

involvement in the Oct. 7 hijacking of the Italian cruise ship and the alleged killing of American passenger Leon Klinghoffer.

Israel also holds the PLO responsible for the killing two weeks ago of three Israelis in Cyprus. The PLO said it had nothing to do with the killing on board the Israeli's yacht at a Larnaca marina. Subsequent reports indicated that the three were Israeli secret agents.

"Peres' main message is that by the events of the past two weeks in Larnaca... and the Achille Lauro, the nature of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, both its activities and credibility, have been shown," Savir said.

Peres would not make a speech on the Middle East during the conference of Social Democrats and Labour Party leaders. He was scheduled to meet former West German Chancellor Willy Brandt, who is chairing the SI meeting.

The PLO has denied involvement

INSIDE

- * Rome police find missile aimed at Tunisian mission, page 2
- * Washer outlines government goals in industry, page 3
- * French Socialists close ranks, page 4
- * Ibrahim Nasrallah: A poet who cares for people, page 5
- * Princess Alia to preside over horse festival, page 6
- * Japan unveils plan to boost demand, page 7
- * South Africa to hang black poet, page 8

(Continued on page 5)

SOON 1 HOUR
"MARTINIZING"

NEWS IN BRIEF

Regent condoles Odeh family

AMMAN (J.T.)—His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Tuesday delegated Amman Governor Ali Al Bashir to convey his condolences to the family of Alex Odeh, the Arab-American citizen who was killed in Santa Ana, California, on Friday. Mr. Odeh was killed when a bomb exploded in his three-storey office where he was in charge of the local branch of the American Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee.

Rifai visits army headquarters

AMMAN (Petra)—Prime Minister Zaid Al Rifai Tuesday visited the army headquarters and held talks with Armed Forces Commander in Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker. Attending the meeting were Army Chief of Staff Fathi Abu Taleb and his aide for planning and organisation.

Khatib holds information talks in Bahrain

MANAMA (Petra)—Minister of Information Mohammad Al Khatib was received here Tuesday by Bahraini Emir Sheikh Isa Ibn Salman Al Khalifa. During their meeting they discussed bilateral relations and issues of common concern. The meeting was attended by Bahraini Minister of Information Tareq Abdul Ragman and Jordan's ambassador to Bahrain. Later Mr. Khatib visited the Ministry of Information and inspected the Bahraini News Agency. Mr. Khatib arrived in Bahrain Tuesday on a three-day visit during which he will hold talks with government officials on bilateral cooperation in information affairs.

JMA to assist medical centre in Sudan

AMMAN (Petra)—The Jordanian Medical Association (JMA) has decided to give assistance to a newly established medical centre in Khartoum. A JMA spokesman said that the association will shortly dispatch a shipment of medical supplies to the Sudanese centre to enable it offer treatment to the famine and drought victims. The centre was established by the Arab Doctors Union.

AUB chairman resigns

AMMAN (J.T.)—Chairman of the American University of Beirut (AUB) board of trustees Najeeb Al Halabi has announced his resignation. Dr. Halabi, who is the father of Her Majesty Queen Noor, has been AUB's board of trustees chairman since 1983. Dr. Halabi's successor was not named. A spokesman for the AUB Alumni Club in Amman told the Jordan Times that Dr. Halabi's resignation was because he has reached the age of retirement. Dr. Halabi, 70, was also chairman of the pan-American board of directors for the university.

Stock market turnover falls slightly

AMMAN (R)—Turnover on the Amman Financial Market (AFM), Jordan's official exchange market, fell 1.6 per cent to JD 7.4 million in September compared with August. The exchange's monthly bulletin said. The bulletin said 5.2 million shares of 91 listed companies were traded, more than double the August total, while the number of contracts rose to 7,277 from 4,862. The share price index rose 0.93 per cent. The industrial sector accounted for 47 per cent of trading, the banking and financial sector for 43 per cent, services eight per cent and insurance two per cent.

Governors announce election results

ZAR JA (Petra)—A new eight-member municipal council has been elected for Hashmeieh in Zarqa Governorate. The council members were chosen in a municipal election which took place in the town Monday, according to Zarqa Governor Mohammad Al Dabab. In Mafrag, the governor has announced the formation of a municipal council in Khalidieh. The eight-member council, he said, was elected by unanimous vote.



Minister of Trade, Industry and Supply Rajai Al Muasher (3rd from left) speaks during a lecture at the Marriott Hotel Monday. The lecture was organised by the Petra Lions Club in Amman.

Ministry organises diversions for construction of interchanges

AMMAN (J.T.)—Amman Municipality has made arrangements for diversions on roads leading to the Sports City and the Ministry of Interior in preparation for work on the construction of interchanges and traffic lights at the two districts.

Minister of Interior Hassan Al Kayed Tuesday made inspection visits to the places which will be affected and then chaired a meeting at his office to discuss plans to help facilitate the flow of traffic.

Jordan aims for food security, self-sufficiency, Dakhqan says

AMMAN (Petra)—The Jordanian government has over the past few years increased its spending on agricultural projects with the aim of ensuring food security for Jordan and making the country self-sufficient in as many products as possible. Agriculture Minister Ahmad Dakhqan said Tuesday.

Speaking to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, on the eve of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation's (FAO) 40th anniversary and World Food Day's fifth anniversary, the minister said that Jordan has now become self-sufficient in vegetables, poultry, eggs and a number of fruits, and added that the Kingdom has achieved development growth rates "exceeding FAO's expectations by four per cent."

The Ministry of Agriculture, he said, has started applying agricultural cropping patterns with the aim of organising farming operations and improving the conditions and incomes of farmers with an ultimate goal of stemming migration from rural to urban regions, the minister said.

In cooperation with FAO, he said, Jordan has implemented a number of projects in low-lying and highland regions and has also carried out afforestation and pasture schemes in different regions. With FAO help, Jordan has been reclaiming land in the Jordan Valley, around the Zarqa River Basin and in the bedja regions with the aim of increasing food production. Mr. Dakhqan said.

He expressed hope that Jordan will, by the end of the present century, attain an advanced stage in its drive towards self-sufficiency in food products. The minister also said that the anniversary should serve as an encouragement to world nations to exert more efforts to end famine.

Al-Khazraji and Mr. Esenbel, deputy representative of the World Food Programme (WFP), will also be speaking on this occasion. There was also a television programme about the FAO as well as various newspaper articles on WFD. Dr. Al-Khazraji added.

In the arid and semi-arid zones, to which Jordan belongs, trees and shrub vegetation are crucial for the protection of soil. The vegetation shelters the soil from erosion by wind and water and protects the agricultural land.

The control desertification, the government of Jordan is giving incentives to farmers who use part of their land to grow trees. Trees, however, need several years to become productive, and in order to help farmers to bridge this income gap, the World Food Programme (WFP) of the U.N. and the FAO was asked to assist Jordan in the late 1960s and the WFP provided aid in the form of a 'Food for Work Programme', explains Mr. Esenbel, the deputy representative of WFP in Jordan.

A more recent project assisted by food aid from the WFP, which also aims at the protection and development of agricultural land in the highland regions, was started in 1983. The activities of this project are fruit tree planting, terracing, seedling production and afforestation.

He stressed that the food aid provided by the WFP does not mean charity, but that it is given to enable and to encourage people to produce their own food. Another important target group for WFP food aid are "vulnerable groups" such as mothers and infants or schoolchildren. Since 1978, WFP has been assisting the school feeding programme in Jordan, which provides a midday meal for 80,000 schoolchildren in rural areas in about 547 schools every day.

IATA committee opens talks on airline safety

AMMAN (Petra)—The fifth meeting of a technical committee formed by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) opened in Amman Tuesday. Representatives of 38 airlines from Arab and foreign countries and the Arab Air Carriers Organisation (AACO) will discuss subjects pertaining to air transport safety, the safety of airlines, links between IATA members and technical problems which could endanger air travel in the Middle East region.

Addressing the opening session was Mahmoud Jamal Balqaz, director general of Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline. He said that IATA's choice of Amman as a venue for this conference reflects the great confidence the world organisation has in Jordan which supports and promotes the work of world airlines.

Jordan believes in the significant role which world airlines can play in promoting culture and understanding among nations. Mr. Balqaz said. Alia, he added, has established an important position in the world of air transport, and the Queen Alia International Airport, which has up to date and sophisticated equipment, is a source of pride not only for Jordan but for all those concerned with air transport safety.

In his speech, Mr. Balqaz reviewed the many achievements realised by Alia in air transport fields, and stressed the importance of technical matters which, he said, should be given priority in the advancement of world airlines.

The meeting was addressed by an IATA representative who voiced appreciation to Jordan for hosting the conference and paid tribute to Alia for its cooperation with IATA.

Alia Deputy Director for Operations George Matta spoke to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, about the conference explaining that it is usually held every three years in a European country. He said that Jordan had been chosen as the venue for the conference this time in view of its world-wide reputation in air transport and travel and its geographic and touristic importance. He added that Alia has prepared a programme for the committee members to visit Jordan's archaeological and tourist sites in the country.

Muasher: Government policies aim to attract investments, encourage local industry

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN—Minister of Trade, Industry and Supply Rajai Al Muasher Monday said that Jordan's economic growth retreated by four per cent in 1984 due to a considerable shrink in Arab financial aid to Jordan, a drop in Jordanian exports and a decrease in money transfers from Jordanian expatriates.

Dr. Muasher also said that, despite an international recession which affected the country, Jordan's economy showed a flexible response since the annual rate of inflation has remained between five per cent and seven per cent.

The minister, who was speaking during a lecture at the Marriott Hotel in Amman, referred to the ministry's recent decision to ban a number of imports of products similar to those produced in Jordan in order to provide protection for local and young industries. "Protectionism was the only means to protect local industries from having to compete with similar imported commodities. The decision will also enable protected local commodities to find new market openings," he said.

During the lecture, which was organised by the Petra Lions Club in Amman, Dr. Muasher explained that the government is trying hard to encourage investments in the industrial sector in order that local industries will eventually replace Jordan's imports.

Planning Ministry gears up for the next five years

Simonetta Carr
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN—As Jordan nears the end of its present five-year development plan, the Ministry of Planning is completing its formulation of new projects for the next five years.

Dr. Ziad Fariz, secretary general of the Ministry of Planning, told the Jordan Times that one of the main factors which is being examined in the present five-year plan is the rate of growth, which reached less than 5 per cent, against an anticipated 11.5 per cent. Dr. Fariz attributed this reduced growth rate to the present developments in the Gulf area, such as the Iran-Iraq war and the unstable economic situation which resulted in less demand for labour and exports. There has also been a decline in the aid given to Jordan by Arab states such as Libya, Algeria and the Gulf states with only Saudi Arabia and Kuwait maintaining their previous levels of support, he said.

Dr. Fariz added that the government is working on creating a larger diversification in industrial and cultural fields in order to overcome this problem. Incentives, such as tax exemptions, have also been given to exporters to encourage them to increase their exports.

He continued that new dimensions will also be explored, such as regional development, especially in the agricultural field, and particularly in the area of dryland farming. More efforts will also be made into channelling domestic savings towards investment. "The general philosophy remains one of giving more emphasis to the private sector and free enterprise economy," he said.

The full participation of government officials, representatives of the private sector, professionals, community leaders, university specialists and other concerned parties has contributed to the preparation of the next five-year plan on both the sectorial and regional levels. Local governorates and municipalities, as well as each community have taken part in the formation of the plan, which will officially begin in January 1986, although, as Dr. Fariz said, will not come into effect until a few months later.

while at the same time, local commodities could be exported. "We are currently engaged in reviewing the investment law, in order to encourage more investments in various sectors and to attract local, Arab and foreign capital for investment in socio-economic development projects," he continued. More investments in the various economic sectors of the country would also mean new job openings for a number of unemployed labourers in Jordan, the minister added.

In order to try and solve all the problems which are impeding the progress of the Jordanian economy, Dr. Muasher said that the government's new policy stresses on the creation of short and long-term economic developmental policies, in the sectors of supply, transport, agriculture, real estate and foreign trade.

Elaborating, Dr. Muasher said that the Ministry of Supply's role was previously confined to providing basic commodities to local consumers at reasonable prices

and to secure essential food supplies to avoid food shortages.

New supply law
The Ministry of Supply has also finalised the new supply law which includes establishing a higher supply council which will be responsible for setting up the country's supply policy and coordinating between the ministry and the private sector, he said. The proposed supply law also emphasises the need to establish a specialised first instance supply court to review any supply violations made by local merchants and retailers, instead of transferring the violators to military courts, the minister continued.

The government's long-term policy in the economic sector on several aspects which mainly are to create new foreign trade channels, to increase local imports and to regain the private sector's trust in the economic sector.

The government's new short-term policy in the foreign trade sector centres mainly on adopting new policies which aim at minimising imports in order to protect local revenues and to encourage local production. Dr. Muasher said. The government will also take steps to simplify export procedures, he added.

Following the lecture, Speaker of the Lower House of Parliament Akef Al Fayed, who also is president of the Petra Lions Club, presented Dr. Muasher with the club's shield.

PSD director returns from conferences on police affairs

AMMAN (Petra)—Public Security Department Director Lieutenant General Abdul Hadi Al Majali has returned to Amman after heading Jordan's delegation to the Arab police chiefs meeting held in Tunis and an international conference organised by Interpol and held in Washington.

Discussing the meeting in Tunis, he said the police delegations, discussed juvenile delinquency, youth and moral crimes in the Arab World and ways to protect children, women and old people from violent crime. The Public Security Department submitted a working paper to the Tunis meeting containing Jordan's points of view regarding the various subjects discussed by the delegates. Lt-Gen. Majali said.

The Washington meeting was attended by delegates from 112 nations, he continued, and it discussed means of combating drug trafficking and forging of currency. Delegates also reviewed prospects for establishing an international institute to train personnel on combating crimes in cooperation with Interpol.

Jordan to chair crime talks

Jordan is to chair the first conference on migration and crime in the Arab World which will open in Tunis Wednesday. The three-day conference will discuss topics on social changes related to migration, the role of civil planning and housing policies on limiting or increasing crime, measures for limiting internal and external migration and the role of the police in combating crime.

Jordan marks World Food Day today

By Monika Warlok
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN—World Food Day (WFD) is marked today for the fifth time since its creation seven years ago. It was established to increase global awareness of the problems of hunger and poverty and to stimulate national and international action in the fight to feed the world.

This year, it will focus on rural poverty and forestry which are closely linked issues since there is a startling correlation between poverty and social erosion and deforestation is one of the most serious causes of soil erosion and the resulting land degradation, according to a press release issued by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) to mark WFD.

The World Food Day was established at the 1979 FAO conference and was celebrated for the first time in 1981 by more than 140 nations and has been observed every year since.

In order to provide a thematic framework and a more unified international approach, the director general of the FAO suggested to focus each year's activities on a different topic. In 1983, this was "World Food Security," 1984's theme was "Women in Agriculture" and in 1985, activities will centre around rural poverty and forestry. The WFD 1985 also marks the 40th anniversary of the founding of the FAO.

Activities in Jordan

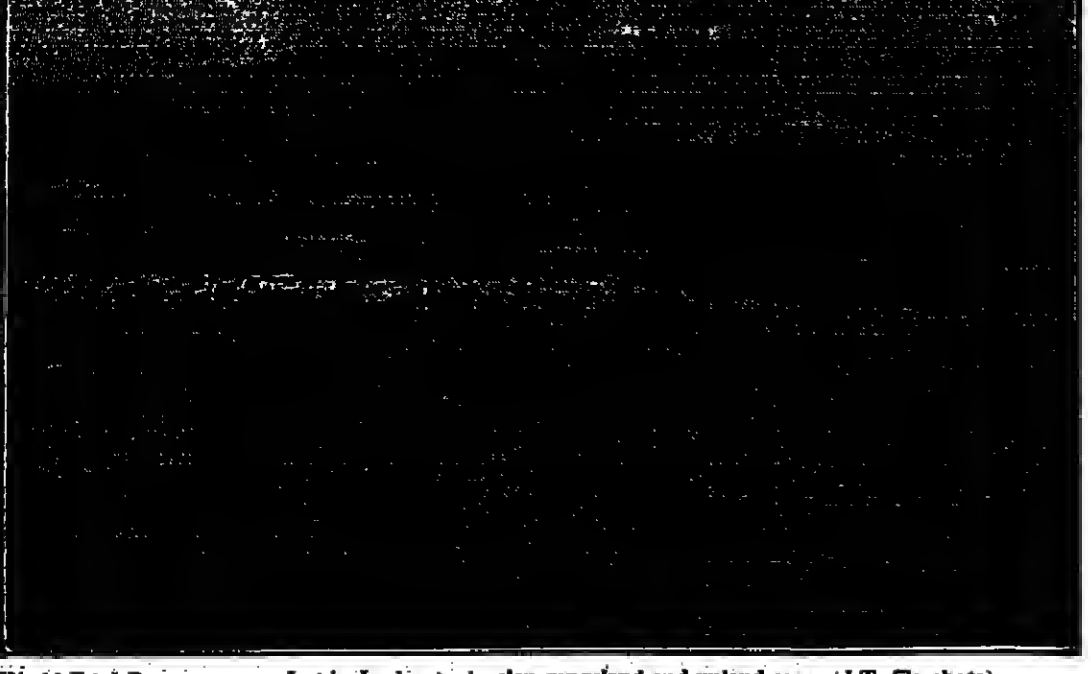
Jordan observes the WFD with several activities. Dr. Al-Khazraji, FAO liaison officer for the WFD and representative of the FAO in Jordan, told the Jordan Times. There have been radio programmes addressing farmers, calling upon them to increase food production, and informing them about the food situation and the need for food security.

A radio contest was held with questions about the organisation of the FAO, the 40th anniversary of the United Nations (U.N.) and the FAO and the significance of Oct 16. Winners will be presented with their prizes (\$250 for first and second and \$100 for third prize) during a celebration of the WFD on Oct. 19 in Amman by Ministry of Agriculture Under Secretary Salem Al Lawzi. Dr.

WFP projects in the Kingdom

The control desertification, the government of Jordan is giving incentives to farmers who use part of their land to grow trees. Trees, however, need several years to become productive, and in order to help farmers to bridge this income gap, the World Food Programme (WFP) of the U.N. and the FAO was asked to assist Jordan in the late 1960s and the WFP provided aid in the form of a 'Food for Work Programme', explains Mr. Esenbel, the deputy representative of WFP in Jordan.

A more recent project assisted



World Food Programme project in Jordan to develop rangeland and upland areas (J.T. file photo)

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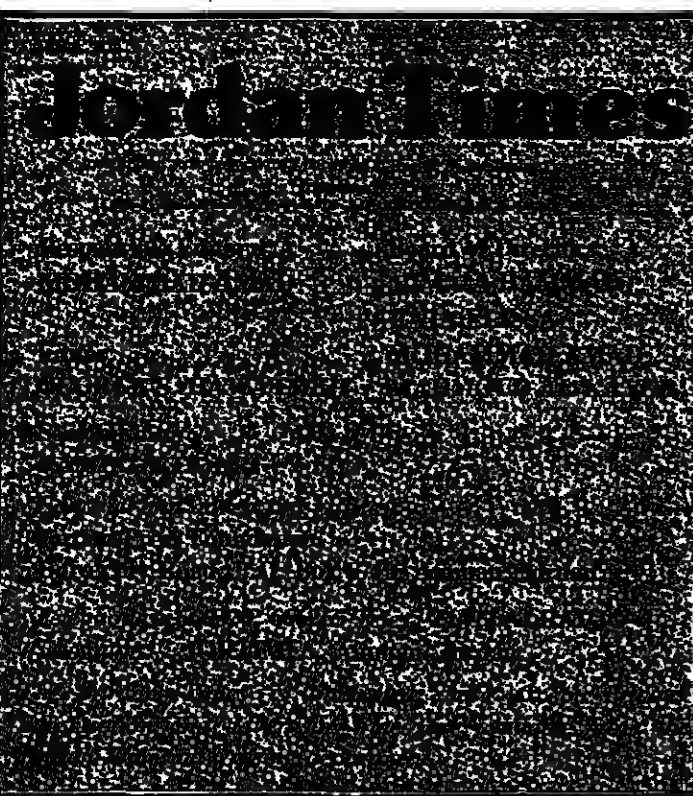
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Gap in culture

ON Sept. 27 an international conference on the Nabatean City of Petra in southern Jordan was concluded at the ancient city. Scholars and historians from 18 different nations gathered for a whole week, reviewing the history of Jordan and economic and social progress of past civilisations on its soil. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, who opened the 4-day symposium on Petra and the Caravan Cities that was held in the ancient Nabatean city, was quoted as saying that future seminars on history and archaeology in Jordan should be held on historical sites, like Karak and Jerash and others, in order to highlight their importance to Jordanians and the world at large. And indeed such a step is necessary because even many Jordanians remain either ignorant of the existence of these places or they have not had the chance to visit and discover them.

One reason for this cultural gap, as it were, could be the absence of proper facilities, and for many families with limited income, the high cost of travelling to and staying at, say in Aqaba, for a few days and the lack of organised and scheduled programmes on the part of local travel agents and the Tourism Authority. But more importantly perhaps is the fact we in Jordan — both government and people — have so far failed in making our internal tourism a success. It is the new-old dilemma, in fact. We know a problem exists, but despite an attempt here and there at rectifying it, we remain where we started long ago.

This cultural gap means not only cultural and educational losses to the Jordanian society. It also drains our financial resources and prevents us from gaining some valuable experiences in nation-building. Such a situation must not be allowed to continue for much longer as we owe it to ourselves and the future generations to take steps now to change it. The task of tackling this problem, through involving all concerned parties and departments in an ongoing dialogue and a positive engagement, should be all the easier since we today have one ministry dealing with all aspects of culture, tourism and information and also a private sector and public whose eagerness for cooperation with the government in revitalising the economy and improving our way of life cannot be denied.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Last chance for peace

THE INTERNATIONAL conference on Oil for Peace which opened in Rome on Sunday heard an address from Prince Hassan in which he dwelt on two points. The first point dealt with the historic link between the Arab World and Europe and the need for building strong ties based on cooperation and understanding that can serve both sides. The second point dealt with the current violence in the Middle East and the continued Arab-Israeli conflict which is a direct result of the world's disregard to the Palestinian people's rights in their homeland.

Prince Hassan stressed the fact that violence can only breed more violence and in the absence of peace in our region it is difficult to predict the consequences. Prince Hassan pointed to the fact that in such situation fraught with danger not only will the parties to the Middle East conflict be affected but the European countries and their interests will be in jeopardy.

Therefore, he said, Europe must step in and find a just solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict and see to it that the Palestinians regain their rights and their homes and territory.

Europe can offer guarantees to such peace because any harm done to our region is bound to affect Europe as well. Prince Hassan said that time is running out and the present opportunity for making peace should not be lost.

Al Dustour: U.S. bizarre quest

UNDER THE pretext of carrying war against terrorism, the United States pursues a heated campaign against the PLO and against its reputation.

The United States does not recognise the role which the PLO played in cooperation with the Egyptian government to save the lives of all those on board the Italian cruiser and to end the hijacking affair. Statements by U.S. officials indicate that Washington will continue efforts to capture a leading member of the PLO's executive body, despite rebuffs from Italy and Yugoslavia, the countries which the United States approached to hand over this PLO member.

The United States has even gone one step further by issuing a threat in the United Nations that Washington would boycott the world body's 40th anniversary celebrations if it called PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat to address the General Assembly.

Washington's hostility to the PLO is blinding it completely and causing it to behave in an unusual manner, endangering even the United Nations.

The United States, which had earlier given its support to Israel's raid on Tunisia, is trying every possible means for sabotaging peace efforts and undermining any possible way for restoring stability and security to the Middle East region.

The United States is doing exactly what Israel is trying to achieve, which will eventually lead to further danger to world peace.

Sawt Al Shaab: Israeli version of peace

WITH THEIR endeavours to achieve peace, the Arabs in general and the PLO in particular have exposed the true nature of Israel and its false claims that it wants to reach peace with its Arab neighbours.

The Arab quest for peace came as a surprise to the Israelis and their allies who saw in peace an appalling situation that would put an end to Israel's expansion and aggression.

The developments in our region these days expose to the whole world the false pretences of Israel and its backers who never thought that the Arabs will be inclined to talk peace or to argue reasonably in order to regain their rights.

The Arab position has placed Israel face to face with the prospect of accepting peace or rejecting it. The Israeli response, which took the form of aggression on Tunisia reflects clearly Israel's determination to sabotage all peace moves.

This Israeli reaction to the Arabs' endeavours for peace reveals to the world that it is Israel and no one else which is impeding the path of peace and it is Israel and no one else which adopts violence and terrorism in dealing with others.

GUEST COLUMN

Arab food security — a dream or a hard-sought reality?

By Akef Al Zou'bi

A STUDY prepared by the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development (AOAD) revealed that the Arab World imports of food have risen from \$3 billion in 1970, to \$16 billion in 1982 and to \$34 billion in 1984. The study predicts that this trend would continue to rise at the annual average of 12.7 per cent and will no doubt raise the annual bill of imported food to \$127 billion by the year 2,000, something that total Arab oil revenue would not be sufficient to pay for.

In view of the situation, the Arab Agriculture Ministers Council has endorsed a plan for spending \$33 billion on pro-

jects designed to ensure food security for the Arab World by the year 2,000. \$15 billion short of the AOAD's recommended \$48 billion for the purpose.

In addition to the insufficient funds for agricultural investments, and by estimating that many of the planned projects would not always be as fruitful as originally projected, it is easy to conclude that the year 2,000 will find us in a really pitiable situation.

It is really horrifying to find that, at the threshold of the 21st century, we seem to be awaiting a miracle to save our souls although we are certain that the amount of money we

have is insufficient for purchasing our needs of food.

We might not even find any country that could dispense with its food to sell to us for all the money we would have. During this year, Bulgaria was reported to have turned down a request by one of the oil-rich Arab states for supplying it with more meat despite the fact that a higher price was offered for the additional shipments.

The Arab countries have never found it difficult to define the real causes for the shortage in their food production. One main cause is attributed to the current consumption patterns in the Arab World, where

rampant consumption of all types of commodities outstrips any food production increases. Another reason is the increase in the growth rates of Arab population which now stands at an average of 2.8 per cent.

Solution for the problem have been always offered by specialists, researchers and planners, but the fault always lies in the implementation of decisions.

Armies of Arab consumers constantly seek all types of consumer products, encouraged in doing so by the open-import policies of their countries which tend to favour importers and consumers to

producers and manufacturers, at the expense of the national economy as a whole.

Indeed, the state of backwardness, and constraints on financial policies coupled with limited regional markets, the absence of agricultural integration among Arab countries, the rapid increase in the population due to religious and political reasons are altogether responsible for this drastic drop in food production.

What we would like to tell policy-makers is that, sooner or later, they will have to take painful decisions to deal with the deteriorating situation. Any procrastination in res-

orting to drastic action now, would definitely lead to a much more difficult option: to beg for food or die of hunger.

The first step on the road of handling the situation should focus on intensifying efforts for increasing food production, followed by spreading awareness among the public on the need to rationalise consumption of all kinds of commodities, imported or locally produced.

We must preserve our funds and keep our balance of payment in good order in preparation for more difficult days when austerity measures would become inevitable.

French Socialists close ranks for next year's election battle

By John Morrison
Reuter

TOULOUSE — France's warring Socialist barons have closed ranks — at least for the moment — and agreed on a common political line for parliamentary elections next year.

But their show of unity at a three-day congress here marked what is likely to be only a pause in a race to find the party's next candidate for president.

Party factions, much to their surprise, found themselves in basic agreement on their political strategy and there was no questioning of the government's economic policies.

Nobody breached an unspoken agreement to ignore the awkward subject of the sinking of the Greenpeace ship Rainbow Warrior in New Zealand by French agents. The congress agreed that the strategy of alliance with the Communists that brought the Socialists to power in 1981 was dead but was unable to think of an obvious replacement.

However, there was agreement that the Socialists would return to opposition if the election left them too weak to form a government on their own terms.

Education Minister Jean-Pierre Chevènement said the election was only the first battle in what would be a war of movement between 1986 and 1988.

Because President Mitterrand's term still has two years to run, the left will still control the Elysee Palace even if, as seems inevitable, it loses its national assembly majority.

As head of state, Mitterrand will still have the powers granted by the Gaullist constitution of the fifth republic. He will be able to appoint and sack the prime minister and dissolve the assembly to hold fresh elections if he chooses.

Officially, the Socialist congress was supposed to concentrate on 1986 but it was clear that many party leaders were positioning themselves for the race to succeed Mitterrand.

Former Agriculture Minister Michel Rocard, who uns-

uccessfully challenged Mitterrand for the party's 1981 nomination, is the only one who has officially announced his candidature.

His most dangerous likely rival, Prime Minister Laurent Fabius, won an ovation with a speech that showed he was what Rocard seems to lack — a political killer instinct.

Also polishing their images were Fabius's predecessor Pierre Mauroy and Education Minister Jean-Pierre Chevènement.

Chevènement has for many years been the standard-bearer for the party's left wing but now cultivates a traditionalist image as the man who has reintroduced the 'Marseillaise', the national anthem, to French classrooms. He stands for a Nationalist, anti-American policy which has echoes of the late General De Gaulle.

The verbal jousting between Chevènement and Rocard showed that the old labels of left and right now have little meaning in the Socialist Party.

Rocard has provoked a debate on whether the party should emulate the successful Social Democratic parties of Sweden, Austria and West Germany. Until recently, Social Democrat was a near-insult among French Socialists.

The party always avoided the term in order to distinguish itself from its predecessor, the SFIO, discredited and weakened by its partnership in right-wing coalitions.

Now, with the Socialists boasting about their successes in controlling inflation, boosting business profits and improving the trade balance, the term is no longer totally taboo.

Party strategists agree that in the long term it must evolve into a broader-based movement with a less middle-class flavour. The aim is to replace the declining Communist Party completely and become the main political force in France, while still remaining anchored on the left.

This would mean turning the party from a white-collar movement of teachers, civil servants and local militants into a mass party with working-class membership.



Soviet laymen and intellectuals voice hopes for world peace

By Charles J. Hanley
The Associated Press

MOSCOW — For Muscovites, this chilly gray autumn is the season of front-wheel-drive Spinniks, early "shapkas" and star wars. And with November's snows, they know, comes Geneva's supersonic summit.

"Our hopes are up. For disarmament — and for no star wars," said a red-haired, 35-year-old mechanic named Sasha.

It was a typical comment among people stopped by a Western journalist on city streets. Over at Pravda, too, the tootsie is upbeat.

"What is encouraging in the White House reaction to our proposals is that they are not rejecting them offhand, as they did before," Vladimir V. Bolchakov, a commentator for the Communist Party newspaper, told a visitor.

Across town at Izvestia, however, four-faced ex-diplomat Valentin Falin, an editorialist for the government paper, sounded sceptical.

"Even if Mr. Reagan would like to have an agreement in principle," Falin said, "no single political leader can stop the inertia of military development in the United States."

In these weeks before the Nov. 19-20 Soviet-U.S. summit, the Moscow mood is far from monolithic. For ordinary Soviets, everyday

concerns come first: Getting on the waiting list for the sleek new Spinnik hatchback automobiles that have hit the road this fall; sweeping up the poplar leaves that blanket Moscow sidewalks like golden-yellow blizzards; queuing up at the vodka shops, whose hours were shortened in an anti-drinking campaign; digging out the shapka fur hat before the Arctic wind whips in.

But, like Americans, they also worry about, the international arms race. They follow the official Soviet news media's reports on the coming meeting between General Secretary Mikhail S. Gorbachev and President Reagan, the first superpower summit in six years. They know about Gorbachev's "constructive" proposal for deep cuts in offensive nuclear weapons, and about the frightening "zuzozhnyi voyiny" (Star Wars), Reagan's plan for building space defense against missile attack.

What they do not know is that the U.S. government contends that Soviets are conducting research into similar defensive weapons systems.

"I think we are using space only for peaceful purposes," a 44-year-old woman who gave her name as Katyana insisted to an inquiring reporter.

Vladimir Morozov, the deputy Foreign Ministry spokesman, asked about the U.S. reports, repeated an official line heard eve-

rywhere: "We are against the militarisation of space."

Gorbachev's plan has drawn a mixed reaction from American officials. They welcome it as a bargaining proposal, but at the same time some call it potentially dangerous to U.S. "security." In Moscow, in a series of interviews last week, Soviet officials and commentators sounded unsure of the chances for success at the summit.

"We go to Geneva with the hope of finding a solution," was all the soon-committal Morozov would say.

Whatever the uncertainties, the Soviets are clearly relishing the attention woo by the new Soviet leader's arms-control initiative.

"I think we are leading diplomatically now. The position is very dynamic," said an enthusiastic Soviet specialist on American public opinion, Andrei Y. Melville.

The Soviets sometimes play down the importance of individual leaders, but the 54-year-old Gorbachev, who took power last March and brought a younger look to the Kremlin, has his boosters among the intelligentsia.

Lev S. Semelko, a military specialist and colleague of Melville at the U.S. and Canada Institute, acknowledged that Moscow for years had rejected the "deep cuts" idea.

Now that a substantial Soviet proposal is on the table, he said,

"I connect it with Gorbachev's coming to power."

Bolchakov, at Pravda, characterised the new leadership as "more energetic," and said Gorbachev's more open personal style "shouldn't be underestimated."

In a free-wheeling conversation in his cluttered office, Bolchakov also touched on an underlying motive for the Soviet push on arms control — Gorbachev's hopes to reform the balky Soviet economy.

"The Soviet Union needs a long, long period of peace... not a new buildup of arms," Bolchakov said. "We are not interested in an economy of waste."

The economic pressure — only infrequently acknowledged by the Soviets — underlines the importance of the Geneva summit for Moscow.

It will be an opportunity to "show the seriousness of our proposals," the Soviets said over and over. And Gorbachev, like Reagan, can be a persuasive man, said Morozov.

But, the foreign Ministry spokesman interjected with a laugh, "let me assure you, he won't try to turn Mr. Reagan into a Marxist."

Out on the streets, some Muscovites seem to have faith in the convinced neo-Marxist in the White House.

"We just want peace," said 46-year-old engineer Galina Smirnova, "and I think Ronald Reagan wants peace, too."

Human rights probe worries Chilean junta

While the attitude of the Chilean authorities towards current court inquiries into politically-motivated kidnappings and murders appears to be one of bland detachment, diplomats detect signs of nervousness. Mary Helen Spenser reports.

SANTIAGO — Otto Trujillo is a stocky, moustachioed man with fewer qualms about discussing his past than most members of the Chilean security forces.

A former air force intelligence agent, he was recently arrested in connection with a court investigation into the disappearance of 13 Communist Party members in 1977. Before he was arraigned in court, Sr. Trujillo gave an extended interview to an independent provincial newspaper in which he described how leftists

constrated, and a broad-based coalition of political parties is campaigning for a multipartisan plan for a return to democratic rule.

While Chile's armed forces tend to be tightlipped and inscrutable about their views, diplomats in Santiago say the military is nervously watching events in neighbouring Argentina, where former junta members are being prosecuted for a variety of human rights abuses.

The recent scandal in which a civilian appeals court judge im-

The military is nervously watching events in neighbouring Argentina, where former junta members are being prosecuted for a variety of human rights abuses.

were persecuted, tortured and killed during the first few years of Chile's military government.

Sr. Trujillo is not the first member of the country's security apparatus to make such revelations, but his statements come at an uncomfortable time for General Augusto Pinochet's regime, which last month celebrated its 12th year in power.

The country's judiciary is investigating several cases of human rights abuses with greater vigour than ever previously dem-

licated over a dozen members of Chile's paramilitary police force in a triple political murder, prompting the resignation of Gen. Cesar Mendoza, the police chief and a member of the ruling junta, has undoubtedly heightened such concern.

On the surface, the regime's attitude toward the court inquiries into political murder and kidnappings appears to be one of bland detachment. But a recent statement by Gen. Pinochet suggests that official concern runs

deep.

In a speech to the army last month he charged that "voices with dangerous criteria of revenge" had arisen against the armed forces, which he said had valiantly saved the country from Marxism.

According to Chile's constitution, Gen. Pinochet is to remain in office until 1989, when the junta is to select a candidate, who could be Gen. Pinochet himself, to run for another eight-year presidential term.

According to Chile's constitution, drawn up by the regime and ratified in a controversial plebiscite in 1980, Gen. Pinochet is to remain in office until 1989, when the junta is to select a candidate, who could be Gen. Pinochet himself, to run for another eight-year presidential term. Direct elections would not take place almost until the end of the century.

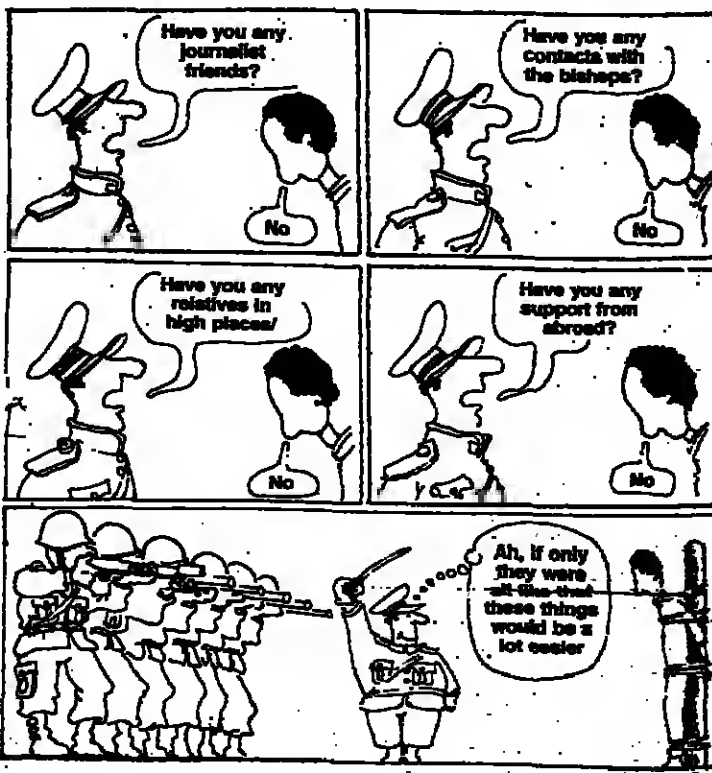
Almost all Chile's political parties are promoting an accord for a speedier return to civilian rule. The "national accord for a transition to full democracy," drawn up by a multipartisan committee and distributed by the country's powerful Roman Catholic church, calls for direct presidential and parliamentary elections, an investigation into past human rights violations, and an immediate end to the state of emergency and its restrictions on civil liberties. The accord also calls for a national referendum on its proposals.

a new civilian cabinet chief willing to meet opposition leaders.

The coalition backing the accord covers the entire Chilean political spectrum except for the extreme right and left, and is young and fragile enough to be weakened by some skillful maneuvering on the part of the regime. The first official reaction to the accord, a communique issued by the government communications agency, said the document's objectives "were not incongruent" with those of the regime, despite "fundamental differences of principles."

Gen. Pinochet, however, has stated flatly that the military will "honourably comply with its commitment to the country, no matter what the price," indicating that he has no intention of leaving office before 1989.

Chilean authorities are betting



that the campaign for the national accord will suffer the same fate as past opposition initiatives, falling by the wayside as disagreements over tactics and goals break out among its supporters.

The first divisions have already emerged, with rightist leaders claiming that the document implicitly recognises the legitimacy of the constitution, and moderate to left-wing opposition figures ins-

isting the opposite. The accord's adherents will not only have to smooth over these differences, but gather extensive grassroots support for the document and find new ways of pressuring the regime.

With each failed opposition initiative, Gen. Pinochet comes closer to 1989 and the possible extension of his presidential term — Financial Times news feature.

Ibrahim Nasrallah: A passionate poet who cares for people and longs for Palestine

By Josephine Zamaniri
Special to the Jordan Times

FEW POETS ever resemble the dark, handsome, ascetic image popularly attributed to them. Ibrahim Nasrallah is one exception; an attractive man, tall, slender, only youth limiting him from elegance. With saddened brown eyes and a warm eloquent smile, he sits relaxed yet intertwined, long legs crossed, whilst hands gently move. True poets hands, of twisted knuckles, and white tapering fingers which softly hold, move, tap and direct. Not a man of wild gestures, he appears self-contained yet discusses his poetry with passion, always demanding the best and most accurate translation, lovingly remembering lines written long ago and constantly seeking to make explicit even the most intangible and incomprehensible of his words.

Although best known as a poet, the thirty-year old Mr. Nasrallah is a practicing journalist as well as a novelist. He has published six books of poetry. His works are constantly changing and, with a ripple effect, appealing to an ever widening audience.

Frequently Mr. Nasrallah's works mirror his early impoverished years as a refugee child living in Westbank. "Childhood leaves its print on the future character. My childhood was not easy nor easily forgotten," he said and with a bitter shrug continued, "my hard childhood was not mine

alone but the shared childhood of a whole people." In one of his poems "A dialogue between two friends", the poet, through two characters, discusses the miracle of surviving the hardships childhood in exile. In a happier vein he wrote "Good morning children, good morning revolution", in which he describes a better, brighter future for Palestinian children through the Palestinian revolution. Mr. Nasrallah believes that the shared poverty of his fellow refugees reflected itself upon family relations which were difficult to maintain under such cruel conditions. Fathers worked hard, often rising before the children awoke and frequently not returning until after they were asleep. With large families, in Mr. Nasrallah's there are ten, material possessions were few, toys simple if not non-existent and life a constant struggle. "We missed family relationships," he softly added. In "Talks about by father and others" he describes his father, a worker at the cigarette factory:

*He has a dream of a loaf and a day of rock.
This is my father, injured by the winds of the early morning,
Inflamed with affliction, he has the face of my mother.
As a covering, protecting him from the coldness of winter.
What he owns of the glittering city.
Is the burning of his role in the extinguished evening.
That is my father, so old in his misery.*

Mr. Nasrallah started to write poetry at the age of sixteen. His early works are all in colloquial Arabic and much of his verse was inspired by the Palestinian struggle. After the Tell Al Za'tar massacre, the direction of his poetry changed. "It was a bloody turning point in my life," he decided to write in classical Arabic, "so I could reach the larger audience of the Arab world". He added, "however my poetry in classical Arabic inherited the simplicity of my previous works."

For Mr. Nasrallah, all is governed by politics "the harshness of childhood is political, the youth we lost and could not possess is political. The daily threats to the individual and the people are political. Me and my poetry are the products of this situation." Nevertheless, he continued, "nature, woman and everything beautiful inspires me because still the hardship of life cannot separate us from the beauty of life."

The significant early influences on Mr. Nasrallah's poetry were the dynamic and powerful Palestinian poets: Mahmoud Darwish, Sami Al Jassam, and Tawfiq Zayad. However, he later read both modern and classical Arabic verse and then, "I chose my independent way," he added with a whimsical shrug. In the century of mass communications, Mr. Nasrallah has read from the far classical past: Homer, Virgil, passing into the era of Shakespeare and from there on to the modern era of literature. "I am the son of this

great human heritage," he said.

Most of his poetry is in blank verse with what he describes as symphonic music or rhythm. The symphonic expression allows the poet to move freely and the poet to express himself in many directions. Some of Mr. Nasrallah's poems are short, but many are epic, some published alone. "No man (blood) earns back its old colour," the history of the Palestinian Fadayeen from 1969 until 1982, is one thousand five hundred lines. Similarly "The last dialogue a few minutes before the death of a bird," is also an epic, describing the horrific death of two Palestinian fighters who were brutally beaten to death after hijacking a bus in occupied Palestine. Dedicated to the two dead fighters, the poem is symbolic of the fighter in general, as the "product of history and oppression."

Mr. Nasrallah's other poems are diverse. "I am human and the nature of my poetry is human, whether I speak about a flower, a fighter or a woman it is all human. I write for my country, the rose, and women too," he quipped with a warm laugh. One poem dear to his heart is "Windows" in which he concludes that the window is the wisdom of the walls as it is that from which we view life. Another anthology "Songs of the morning," describes all aspects of life, women, and nature, even borses.

Although still relatively young, success has come early to him. A much recognised figure, and par-



Ibrahim Nasrallah

ticularly popular with younger audiences. Mr. Nasrallah has had wide exposure throughout the Arab World. Balladna a well known Palestinian folk troupe, uses his colloquial poems widely in their repertoire of songs on Palestine. He still writes for them today. He has visited many Arab countries to recite his verse, including Egypt, Lebanon, Iraq North and South Yemen and the United Arab Emirates.

Some of his poetry has been translated into other languages including Russian. And Mr. Nasrallah has been invited to the Soviet Union by the Soviet As-

ociation of Writers. For two successive years Mr. Nasrallah won the Jordanian Writers League award and he is nominated for the State Literary prize which was initiated this year.

How does a young poet cope with early success? With a tap of an index finger on his glass and a slight smile he replied, "being successful makes you more possible and trains you to convey your ideas better." A sign of this diligence and precision is that in the last year Mr. Nasrallah published only one poem, the epic "Last dialogue a few minutes before the death of a bird."

European allies are new target for 'Voice of America'

By Gene Gibbons
Reuters

WASHINGTON — The United States government is planning to offer radio listeners in Western Europe soon a blend of news, music and features designed to combat what Washington sees as anti-Americanism in allied countries.

Initial plans target continental Europe and efforts to reach British markets are expected later, VOA officials said.

U.S. officials say the Voice of America (VOA), which transmits in 43 languages from Washington studios to Communist bloc and developing areas, is gearing up to resume broadcasts tailored for allied nations next month after a 25-year break.

VOA says it plans to begin broadcasts on October 15 in parts of West Germany and the Paris area, and possibly in other areas.

The controversial operation, with a start-up budget of some three million dollars, stems from President Reagan administration concerns about a perceived leftist drift of public opinion in Western Europe. Officials say they fear Europe's young people are increasingly unsympathetic to America and its policies.

"There are a lot of misperceptions about Americans and what we're like," Frank Scott, a Munich-based VOA official in charge of the operation, told Reuters.

"There are parts of Europe which seem to have no idea that the United States has the largest middle class in the history of civilisation. They think that everybody is either rich or poor."

The result is "a fair amount of anti-Americanism," he said.

Scott said the VOA hopes to counter "a very real concern about the American story not being told too well" by doing a better job of informing Europeans about the United States.

He said it will try to improve America's image among those too young to remember World War Two by broadcasting — at first in English — news, music and features about the United States.

"That hopefully will be so well done people will be able to see it, feel it and smell it."

"Our long range plan is to patch together a network that covers all of Western Europe in English and subsequently, hopefully, in other languages."

The objective is to air the broadcasts eventually in German, Italian, French and Spanish as well as English.

VOA, part of the U.S. Information Agency (USIA) and wholly funded by the American taxpayer, is making various commercial arrangements to reach an audience that already has many other sources of radio pro-

gramming at its fingertips.

Officials say it is negotiating to use radio channels on cable TV systems in West Germany, Norway, Belgium, The Netherlands and Luxembourg. It also plans to buy airtime on FM stations in several European cities.

Initial plans target continental Europe and efforts to reach British markets are expected later, VOA officials said.

"It isn't something that cropped up overnight," Scott said. "It is a bipartisan venture and the planning for it, the push for it, has been going on for many years."

"The budget request was sent to Congress before the SDI (Strategic Defence Initiative) proposal was ever made."

He said a U.S. government survey shows the new European programming will reach masses of people and "hopefully set the record straight" about America, its people and its policies.

But his conviction that the effort is necessary and will prove useful is not shared by everyone at Voice of America.

Calling the targeting of Western Europe "a venture we'll regret," one experienced VOA broadcaster who did not want to be identified conceded that some Europeans might not be as friendly as they once were but added: "whether we can win them over with a combination of soap opera, good modern American music and a smattering of news is extremely doubtful."

Many in Congress are also sceptical.

"There are probably places where we could better spend our money," Central America, the Third World, almost any place besides Europe," said an influential senate staff member.

Another congressional aide said the voice's broadcasts to Western Europe are likely to be regarded as "propaganda."

Senior VOA officials say the governments of all the countries involved have encouraged the broadcasts. But a number of Western European diplomats contacted by Reuters were almost uniformly negative about the plan.

"American news broadcasts are already available in Germany for anyone who is interested," said an official of the West German embassy in Washington.

Officials of other embassies, noting that Western Europe is awash with information about U.S. lifestyles, culture and policies — through imported American newspapers, books, magazines and television shows — said they wondered what the VOA hoped to accomplish.

Some said the administration had created a phantom problem by confusing opposition to its policies with anti-Americanism.

The use of radio waves: a view from Moscow

By A. Poklad
Novosti

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of State has recently made a statement in which it "welcomes" the wish of some Western countries to cancel the international convention on the use of radio broadcasting for peaceful purposes. This convention was adopted in Geneva under the aegis of the League of Nations in 1936.

At the present time, when dozens of radio waves operate on the air, the convention on the use of broadcasting for the benefit of peace not only has retained its importance but has also become highly topical. It declares the use of radio for waging a "psychological war" unlawful. But this is at variance with the aims and objectives of Washington's foreign policy. The United States, while not being a party to the convention, has deemed it possible to state openly that it is "ineffective."

Using the slogan of a "free flow of information," Capitol Hill strategists are carrying out a large-scale programme of "psychological war." In doing so, they give emphasis to radio broadcasting. For instance, over 1,000 hours on the air a week are given to the Voice of America, which broadcasts in 42 languages.

The Liberty and Free Europe radio stations broadcast for more than 1,000 hours in 21 languages. The Pentagon radio facilities which broadcast for 780 hours a week are scattered all across the world. Furthermore, the RIAS radio station located in West Berlin broadcasts for 234 hours. Last but not least, various private American radio stations transmit abroad for more than 500 hours. In the next few years it is planned to spend \$1,800 million on modernising the radio services of the United States. This money will be channelled into the modernisation of the old relay stations and studios and on building new ones, as well as on fitting them with the

newest equipment, computers included.

Along with the increase in the capacities of the radio broadcasting facilities, the geography of broadcasting is to widen considerably. The top officials of the Voice of America have recently signed agreements on stationing new radio transmitters with Sri Lanka, Morocco, Thailand, Belize and some other countries. The radio station of the Voice of Costa Rica, built and functioning on American money, has been operating since the beginning of this year. It relays the Voice of America programmes for the Caribbean area. The anti-Cuban station Radio Marti began its broadcasts last May. In that same month the U.S. Congress adopted a legislative amendment in accordance with which one more radio centre, Free Afghanistan, is to be set up. The search for new "bridgeheads" for radio propaganda is conducted also by the Board for International Broadcasting, which controls the activity of Liberty and Free Europe.

Against the background of the extension of radio broadcasting, the United States makes active efforts to boost TV propaganda for foreign countries. The Worldnet TV system has been operating for two years under the aegis of the U.S. Information Agency (USIA). Such services as Videodialogue and TV Satellite File are being developed.

So, there is a continuous "free flow of information," which is so actively advocated in Washington, through the radio, TV and video channels. In actual fact, this flow is unilateral. It is for this reason that any attempt to stop it causes irritation at the U.S. It is for this reason that the United States has declared UNESCO, which stands for establishing a new, more just and balanced international information order, an "anti-America" organisation and has withdrawn from it. It is for this reason that the USA is against the concept of using radio broadcasting for peaceful purposes.

Ghali: Egypt will continue peace efforts

(Continued from page 1)

Mr. Khalil said in a telephone interview that Egypt "undoubtedly was shocked" when U.S. warplanes hijacked its plane and that Cairo's strong reaction was "100 per cent sound."

But he said it was "necessary that this dispute be contained as soon as possible. It should not be escalated."

"This dispute is transient, not fundamental."

He said he regards as "an attempt to heal the breach" Sunday's statement by U.S. Ambassador to Egypt Nicholas Veliotes expressing deep "regret" that the American action was "necessary and saying, Washington, did it with reluctance."

The suggestion that a quick peace move by Mr. Reagan could redress the injury to Egypt came in a front-page article on Tuesday in the state-owned Cairo newspaper Al Akhbar by its former editor, Moussa Sabri.

President Mubarak on Monday snubbed overtures by President Reagan to mend the rift caused by the hijack and demanded an apology for the incident.

Mr. Mubarak told reporters

Monday he had refused to read a letter delivered by Ambassador Veliotes and hinted he was seeking a public apology.

"I did not receive any convenient apology. This is needed for all Egyptians," he said.

The mass circulation Al Akhbar said in its front-page message to Mr. Reagan by Sabri: "Mr. Reagan, we want you to know that the deep hurt felt by President Mubarak is a wound in the hearts of every Egyptian man, woman and child."

Mr. Mubarak asked about the prospect of improving relations with Washington, said: "I hope the clouds will pass."

In Washington, White House spokesman Larry Speakes said on Tuesday President Reagan has told Egypt and Italy "he's confident that he did the right thing" by ordering the hijack of the Egyptian jet.

Speakes said Mr. Reagan's position was stated in his letter to President Mubarak and in diplomatic communication with the Italian government.

Regarding U.S. efforts to extradite Palestinian leader Mohammed Abbas (Abu Abbas), Speakes said the United States' desire

to have Abu Abbas arrested and brought to trial in connection with the hijacking will continue and that the U.S. position has been made known to all governments in the region.

China on Tuesday accused the United States of trampling on international law and aggravating the Middle East situation by hijacking the Egyptian airliner.

The official New China News Agency said the PLO had saved 400 people on the Achille Lauro by urging the hijackers to surrender.

"When the incident... was over, however, the United States, trampling on international law, sent its fighters to intercept the Egyptian aircraft," it said in a commentary.

Sudan also condemned the U.S. action as a threat to peace in the Middle East.

"The Sudanese government condemns acts of violence and force as a means for resolving international issues, irrespective of the power which resorts to such means," the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA) quoted council of ministers spokesman Amin Medani as saying.

Britain denies U.S. pressure

(Continued from page 1)

events after talks with Mr. Khoury.

Terry Waite told reporters that Britain cancelled the talks after Mr. Milhem rejected a last-minute request to insert in the statement an explicit reference to Israel's right to exist.

But Mr. Rifkind said Jordan, and through it the PLO, had approved the statement, including this reference, last Thursday.

Mr. Healey and David Steel, leaders of the minority centrist Liberal Party, blamed Mrs. Thatcher for what they called a diplomatic shambles. Newspapers that usually support her said she was wrong to invite the two Palestinians in the first place.

Mr. Howe has expressed disappointment over the cancellation but has repeatedly said he believed Britain was right to try to move the peace process forward.

Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri, one of two Jordanian members of the delegation, told reporters outside his hotel in London the door remained open for future talks.

"There is no chance of salvaging anything of the talks in this round, but the door is still open for future negotiations," he said.

Mr. Rifkind, asked if there was a possibility of reviving the cancelled talks, replied: "Clearly one would be over-optimistic to believe that there were possible in the near term."

In Brussels, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said that Britain was "absolutely right" to refuse to meet Palestinian representatives who would not reject violence.

He was answering questions at a North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) news conference.

Washington has, with Israel, consistently refused to talk to the PLO. "We have to hold firm that people who uphold violence cannot sit at the negotiating table," Mr. Shultz said.

The United States had earlier regretted Britain's decision to invite the PLO members to talks in London. However, Mr. Shultz said it was probably a welcome development that "the PLO representatives' reluctance to accept U.N. resolutions... and to reject violence," had been demonstrated.

Palestinian newspapers published in East Jerusalem criticised Britain for requesting a pledge to renounce violence from the PLO delegates, terming it blackmail.

Calling the British demand "a rude attempt at blackmail by the British government," Al Shaab newspaper said the PLO should not make concessions.

"The British government is mistaken in thinking it can outsmart the PLO. Those interested in peace should ask the U.S. and Israel to make concessions and show goodwill," it added.

Al Quds newspaper said the cancellation was a blow to Jordan and the PLO. "Doesn't Britain realise that the PLO refused to give such a pledge to the Americans? This is proof the British cannot act independently from the Americans," it added.

Italy seeks 3 more suspects in hijack

(Continued from page 1)

Egypt could let the hijackers go free.

Mr. de Rosa later said Klinghoffer had been killed. A body thought to be Klinghoffer's has been washed up in Syria.

Sources close to the investigation, who declined to be identified, told the Associated Press that the prisoners admitted to the hijacking.

But the four said they had not intended to hijack the cruise liner and only did so when a waiter discovered them in their cabin with their weapons visible.

The hijackers said they had originally planned to use the ship as a way to enter Israel for a commando attack.

They also denied killing Klinghoffer.

The ANSA news agency, quoting unidentified judicial sources, reported that Siracusa Prosecutor Ettore Costanza, was expected to travel to Syria on Tuesday to verify reports that Klinghoffer's body had been recovered.

The four hijackers told investigators that their submachine guns and explosives had been put in their cabin before they boarded the ship, the judicial sources said.

Their statements echoed a communique issued by the PLF in Tunis on Monday which said the real target was not the ship but a military base in Ashdod.

The communique was the first admission by the Tunis-based PLF, led by Mohammed Abbas (Abu Abbas), that it carried out the hijacking.

Abu Abbas' release from Italy at the weekend strained Rome's relations with Washington and caused tensions in Italy's coalition government.

A top Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official, dismissing the PLF as a tiny element of PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's supporters, said he believed disciplinary action must follow.

One of Mr. Arafat's closest advisers, Khalid Al-Hassan, told Reuters: "There has to be disciplinary

action (against the PLF)... this is something for the (PLO) Executive Committee to take into consideration."

Commenting on the tiny PLF, which has split into Syrian-based and Libyan-based factions apart from Abu Abbas' majority Tunis-based group, Mr. Hassan emphasised they did not represent the main body of the PLO.

"All in all they do not have 100 people. Judge the mainstream, judge the real power," he said.

He added that the hijack should be seen in the whole political context, coming one week after Israel's air strike which destroyed the PLO headquarters near Tunis and Washington's initial unqualified support for it.

"You have to realise what sort of frustrations our people are suffering," he said.

Commenting on the admission of responsibility by Abu Abbas' PLF, he said: "Yes, it's true," but added: "It's not the money of the PLO. It's not the decision of the leadership of the PLO. It's not a military element from the military

forces of the PLO."

Abu Abbas, who was released and went to Belgrade after the Egyptian plane carrying him and the four hijackers was forced to land in Italy, has said neither he nor Mr. Arafat had advance knowledge of the Achille Lauro hijacking.

Asked about the whereabouts of Abu Abbas and whether he would come to Tunis, Mr. Hassan said: "If I were Abu Abbas, I would not come back to Tunis."

Austrian officials could not confirm on Tuesday that Abu Abbas was in Vienna.

A false bomb alert toward midnight caused further confusion. An AUA jetliner, allegedly with Abu Abbas among the passengers, was delayed after an anonymous caller said a bomb was on board.

No explosives were found, and the plane, scheduled to leave at 2225 GMT via Larnaca, Cyprus, for Saudi Arabia, departed 1½ hours late, an airline spokesman said.

Freij urges Arafat to call truce

(Continued from page 1)

weeks."

Mr. Freij said cancellation of the London meeting would create a rift with Jordan and a setback for the peace process.

Other Palestinians said the incident was a major setback for the PLO.

"I believe this might be a fatal blow to the present peace initiative," said Hanna Seniora, editor of the East Jerusalem newspaper Al Fajr. "We felt the meeting in London would really push the peace process and influence the Americans to proceed."

Mr. Seniora was one of two Palestinians reported to have won acceptance from Israeli leader Shimon Peres in July to take part in a Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to preliminary talks with the United States.

"If our rights of self-

determination, to establish our own state and to choose our own leaders — and by that I mean the PLO — are accepted, we are ready to recognise Israel," Mr. Seniora said. "This is not much different from what the British wanted the Palestinians to sign."

Mr. Seniora said he could not support Mr. Freij's call for a truce.

"This step should be taken when the Israeli side is ready to negotiate with the PLO. If we have to take a step forward, we also need a step forward from the Israeli side," he said.

Former Gaza Mayor Rashid Al Shawa, who has frequently met Mr. Peres, called the British move "a great disappointment for all Palestinians."

He suggested it was best "to let things settle a little" before renewing PLO efforts to join the peace process.

Body washed ashore in Syria

(Continued from page 1)

source said. "But we still need several hours before the identification can be finalised," he said Tuesday evening.

Diplomats said the Syrians transported the body in a plain wooden coffin in a U.S. embassy car to the government-run Tishrin hospital in Damascus.

The body has not been turned over to U.S. embassy officials, but is still lying in the hospital morgue awaiting final identification and an autopsy, diplomatic sources said.

A U.S. embassy spokesman told Reuters in Damascus identification of the body "might take, some time as we are awaiting detailed information on Klinghoffer from Washington."

U.S. State Department officials said President Hafez Al Assad's

Syrian government has told Washington the body will be turned over to U.S. officials if it is identified as that of an American citizen.

The diplomatic source added: "Everything is being done to finalise the autopsy as soon as possible."

U.S. embassy officials denied reports that the body has been handed over to them.

The Western sources said the body was still in Syrian custody, "but Western consuls have access to the morgue."

The Italian ANSA news agency quoted unnamed judicial sources as saying Prosecutor Ettore Costanza was expected to fly to Damascus Tuesday to check whether the body is that of Klinghoffer.

Mr. Costanza will also attend the autopsy, ANSA reported.

Andreotti, Shultz discuss Abbas

(Continued from page 1)

allegedly killed.

Italy points out that it had no legal right to hold Abu Abbas.

Abu Abbas had been travelling in an Egyptian plane taking the Achille Lauro hijackers to Tunis when the airliner was forced down in Sicily by U.S. fighter jets after the ship hijack ended.

Washington asked the Italian government to detain him pending a formal extradition request on charges arising from the hijacking but Abu Abbas was allowed to board a flight for Yugoslavia on Saturday evening.

U.S. Ambassador Maxwell Rabb protested to Italian ministers, calling the decision to release Abu Abbas incomprehensible, but on Monday he appeared to tone down the scale of the dispute between the two countries.

In Rome, the dominant Christian Democrats and Premier Bettino Craxi's Socialists on Tuesday sought to avert the collapse of Italy's five-party coalition, which has been shaken by the re-

lease of Abu Abbas.

Mr. Craxi, under fire from his defence minister and the United States, said on Monday he had little choice but to allow Abu Abbas to leave Italy.

Abu Abbas was protected by diplomatic immunity, Mr. Craxi said, because he was travelling on an Iraqi passport.

Defence Minister Giovanni Spadolini denounced Abu Abbas' release, and boycotted Monday's meeting of Mr. Craxi's inner cabinet called to discuss the hijacking. He also complained that he was not consulted about Abu Abbas' release.

Carlo de Mita, the Christian Democrat leader, met with Mr. Spadolini. Deputy Premier Amadeo Forlani, a Christian Democrat, also sat in on the talks with Mr. Spadolini said had been requested by Mr. de Mita.

Giovanni Galloni, editor of the Christian Democrat newspaper Il Popolo, said "the situation is still very tense, but we believe there is still a spiral of hope (to save the government)."

Sweden's Jarryd upset by unranked American

SYDNEY (R) — Defending champion Anders Jarryd of Sweden was bundled out of the Australian Indoor Tennis Championships in the first round Tuesday by up-and-coming American Bud Schultz.

Schultz, 26, from Boston, Massachusetts, who has moved up the rankings from 188th to 59th in just nine months, dispatched the number two seed 6-4, 6-4 in impressive style.

Jarryd was the second seeded player to fail. Earlier, number seven John Sadri fell victim to big-serving fellow-American Chip Hooper 7-6, 6-3.

But the second day of competition saw no other upsets, with the third and fourth seeds, Andres Gomez of Ecuador and New Yorker Paul Annacone, going through to the next round.

Gomez almost suffered a similar fate to Jarryd. He came within a whisker of defeat by Californian Matt Mitchell but staged off his determined challenge to win 6-3, 3-6, 7-5.

Jarryd, 24, was under attack from the start against Schultz, who gave the titleholder little chance to establish a rhythm. After taking the first set in commanding fashion, he chalked up another break in the third game of the second which destroyed the Swede's composure once and for all.

"I knew it would be tough but not as hard as it was," Jarryd

commented ruefully. The unseeded Hooper, ranked 96th, had to be woken up to play Sadri Tuesday morning after a scheduling mix-up.

"I thought I was to play at the end of the day and not the start, but it may have helped. I was really loose after having had no time to think about the match," he said.

Hooper, who meets Californian Mike Bauer in the second round, stormed to 5-3 in the final set, then fought off three break points before winning his first match point with a booming serve and an easy crosscourt volley.

Annacone, fresh from his Brisbane Classic victory on Sunday, had no trouble beating Nigeria's Ndika Odizor 6-3, 6-3 and next meets his Brisbane final victim, Kelly Evernden of New Zealand.

Four of the top eight seeds have safely reached the second round with two, U.S. Open Champion Ivan Lendl and Frenchman Henri Leconte, numbers one and five respectively, yet to play.

Both face Australian opponents Wednesday. Lendl meets qualifier Craig Miller, while Leconte takes on Davis Cup team newcomer

Wally Masur.

Lendl, the world number one, expressed some doubt Tuesday about the shoulder injury which kept arch-rival John McEnroe from competing here.

The American pulled out last Friday saying he had injured his shoulder during his defeat by Lendl in a New Jersey exhibition match. The Czechoslovak had also won their previous meeting, the U.S. Open final.

"I only said two words to him in the exhibition. One was 'good' and the other was 'evening' but he did not look to have injured his shoulder," Lendl told reporters when he arrived.

He qualified his statement by saying that only the player concerned really knows if he has an injury.

"I like to keep my withdrawals to a minimum. He might have other priorities at the moment but I think the press would be wrong to write him off," he added.

World Cup inspections to follow schedule

ZURICH (R) — There are no plans to advance the official inspection tours of the World Cup soccer venues in Mexico scheduled for early December, an official of the International Football Federation (FIFA) said Tuesday.

The official was questioned about reports that an inspection team would visit Mexico next month for an on-the-spot assessment following last month's disastrous earthquake. Parts of the Mexican capital, which includes two World Cup sites, were levelled.

"The official inspection team will leave for Mexico on December 5 and report its findings to the executive committee meeting in Mexico City on December 11. We have no plans for an earlier visit," he told Reuters.

He said any request for the postponement of the World Cup finals would have to be submitted formally to FIFA's executive committee by the Mexican organizers, who maintain the stadiums and related facilities are undamaged.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Al Nasr and Al Shahab gain final

DUBAI (R) — The Dubai soccer clubs Al Nasr and Al Shahab Monday fought their way to Friday's final of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) President's Cup. In Sharjah, Al Shahab beat Al Ahli of Dubai 2-0 in their semifinal, with goals from Khalid Abdullah in the 52nd minute and Abdullah Al Habai in the 62nd. In Umm Al Juwain, second division Ras Al Khaima held favoured Al Nasr to a 3-3 draw after extra time, only to lose 5-7 after penalty deciders.

New York Jets win fifth straight

EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey (AP) — Freeman McNeil took over the National Football League rushing lead with 173 yards and an inspired New York Jets defense throttled Dan Marino and the Miami Dolphins for a 23-7 victory Monday. The Jets won their fifth consecutive game and moved atop the AFC East with a 5-1 record. Miami, which had won four straight, dropped to 4-2. New York had not beaten Miami in seven games before Monday, but they dominated the Dolphins in the second half. The Jets led 6-0 at halftime on field goals of 22 and 18 yards by Pat Leahy, then controlled the ball for much of the second half behind McNeil's running.

Mayotte and Sabatini big in Japan

TOKYO (R) — American Tim Mayotte and Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina, seeded first in the men's and women's divisions, reached the second round in the \$195,500 Japan Open Tennis Tournament Tuesday. The 25-year-old Mayotte, ranked 14th in the world, overpowered Sashi Menon of India 6-1, 6-3 with strong serves and volleying. Sabatini, 15, a strong forehand player, rated 11th in the world, ousted Japan's Emiko Okagawa 6-1, 6-1 in the women's competition.

Benoit tunes up for Chicago

BOSTON, Massachusetts (AP) — Olympic marathon gold medalist Joan Benoit won her third Boston 10-kilometre run Monday, but did it in controlled style as a tuneup for the American Marathon in Chicago next Sunday. The 28-year-old Freeport, Maine, resident toured the course, which she called "flat and fast," through Boston and Cambridge in 31:49, finishing 14 seconds ahead of runner-up and defending champion Judi St. Hilaire of Boston. Benoit earned \$4,000 for her third victory in the nine-year history of the race.

Schuster may rejoin German side

STUTTGART, West Germany (R) — West German manager Franz Beckenbauer hinted Tuesday that Barcelona midfielder Bernd Schuster might return to the national team for next year's World Cup finals in Mexico. Beckenbauer told reporters he had held a secret meeting with Schuster recently and that, though the player had not gone back on the decision he made last year to quit the national team, he had promised to stay in touch.

Gerulaitis announces retirement

TOKYO (R) — American Vitas Gerulaitis said Tuesday he planned to retire from tennis at the end of next year. Gerulaitis, 31, made his announcement after being beaten in the first round of the Japan Open by the Swede Johan Carlsson, ranked 265th in the world.

England poised to secure ticket to Mexico after long wait

LONDON (R) — Having been obvious finalists since December 1983 when the World Cup soccer draw kindly placed them in Europe's weakest group, England should finally reach the front of the ticket queue for Mexico Wednesday.

Their frustrating 22-month wait ought certainly to come to an end to Wembley where Turkey provide the opposition, if that is the right word in view of England's 8-0 win in Istanbul last November.

Providing the other Group Three tie between Romania and Northern Ireland ends in anything but a draw in Bucharest, England will need just one point against the Turks to become the 12th nation to book their passage to Mexico.

At first glance, England's unbeaten record to date looks impressive with three wins, three draws and a goal difference of 16-2.

But 13 of those goals came in

the opening two ties against Finland and Turkey and they have scored just three times in their last four outings, drawing twice against the Romanians and being held 1-1 in Finland.

Though not as good as their fans, many of whom will be unwelcome in Mexico, believe, England are a re-emerging force in world football and their midfield of Bryan Robson, Glenn Hoddle and Ray Wilkins is as talented as anything in Europe at present.

Despite his precious talent, Hoddle has never fully established himself in the England set-up but manager Bobby Robson now appears to accept the fact the Tottenham midfielder's almost indolent flair is ideally suited to the heat of Mexico.

Robson has also seen the emergence of a number of quality strikers and Mark Hateley, Wilkins' club colleague at AC Milan, Gary Lineker, Tony Woodcock, Trevor

Francis, Chris Waddle and John Barnes are all fighting for places.

Whatever formation Robson decides upon, Turkish goalkeeper Yashar Duran can look forward to a busy 90 minutes, though he fired off a defiant prediction Monday by saying: "It won't be another 8-0 result... I'm expecting 0-0."

London's bookmakers do not agree with Duran's assessment, however, and a 5-0 scoreline is the 7-1 favourite.

Duran's counterpart, Peter Shilton, will become England's most capped goalkeeper when he collects his 75th cap — one more than Gordon Banks — and he should celebrate in style by keeping his 38th clean sheet.

But Turkish coach Coskun Ozari predicted Shilton would have to work for his 75th paycheck when he said: "We won't be frightened. We will not concentrate on defence because there is no point."

Princess Alia to preside over horse festival

By Olga Mikhael
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — As part of her continuing efforts to save the pure Arabian breed in Jordan, renowned rider and breeder Her Royal Highness Princess Alia will patronise the Arabian Horse Festival this Friday at the Arabian Horse Club in Amman.

Organised by the Arabian Horse Club in cooperation with the French Cultural Centre in Amman, the Le Jas De Barna equestrian school in France and Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, the festival will include dressage, a young horse show, a Jordanian police academy cavalry show and a jumping competition.

The Arabian Horse Festival will begin on Friday morning for children, and the official opening under the patronage of Princess Alia will take place at 5:00 p.m. in the afternoon.

Mr. Pierre Simon, horsemanship instructor at the Arabian Horse Club and a special instructor and trainer at His Majesty King Hussein's private stables said "around 35 to 40 horsemen will participate in this competition."

Mr. Simon explained that all horses participating in the festival are thoroughbred Arabians except for a few pure-bred imported horses.

Mr. Simon is the son of a horse

breeder and a state graduate from the French Equestrian Federation, a senior riding instructor, and the founder of three riding schools in France.

Mr. Simon has noticed increasing interest in Arabian horses among Jordanians during his three years here. "I am glad to say that people in Jordan have become more involved in different sports activities in general and in horsemanship in particular," he added.

The Arabian Horse Club is the only equestrian school in Jordan under the patronage of Princess Alia. The well-equipped club, with a stable containing 70 boxes, is under the chairmanship of Mr. Hani Bisharat.

Credit should be given to Mr. Bisharat for his continuous efforts

in developing the horses and in particular the Arabian horses at the club," Mr. Simon said.

The team participating in the jumping competition will represent Jordan in an international contest between the Arab countries in Kuwait next month.

At the end of the festival Princess Alia will award prizes to the winners, including free Alia tickets to Paris, a horseriding course at the Le Jas De Barna school from Dr. Marquis at the Italian hospital in Amman, and a free ticket from Paris to Nice, courtesy of the French Cultural Centre in Amman.

A lottery will also be held for several prizes including a purebred Arabian horse donated by the Arabian Horse Club.

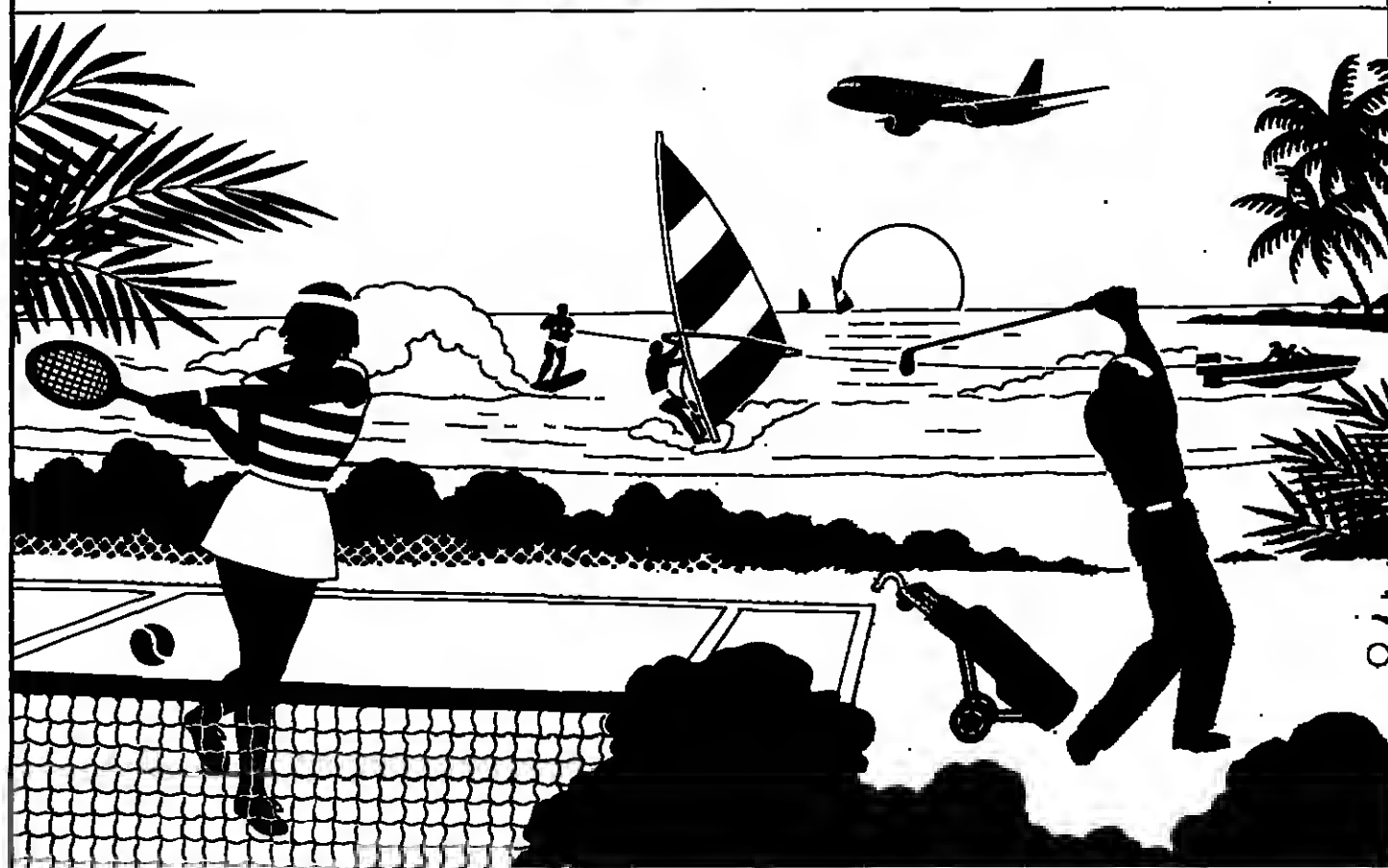
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NOTICE

Subject: Construction of Perimeter Compound Wall, New American Embassy site, Amman Jordan.

The perimeter wall construction is the first phase of construction for a new embassy project. The wall will encompass a project site approximating thirteen acres. The wall will be approximately 500 metres in length, 3.6 metres high. The base and columns are reinforced concrete faced with stone, in-fill panels vary, some are reinforced concrete faced with stone, others are of heavy metal grill work. Empty conduit for future lighting and CCTV is also included in the wall construction. The estimated cost is in excess of U.S. \$1 million with a period of performance of approximately nine (9) months. Prospective offerors will be prequalified and issuance of the bidding documents will be limited to selected firms. The project will be bid and paid in American dollars. Qualified firms must be capable of complying with all Jordanian Laws and Regulations applicable and pertaining to construction contractors. Selection of qualified firms will be based on but not limited to the following factors and detailed completion of form DS-1037 application for construction contracts; (1) experience of five (5) years or more in heavy construction with an annual construction volume greater than U.S. \$7 million during the past three (3) years; and (2) demonstration of successful construction experience in the Middle East with projects of a similar type and magnitude.

Responses shall conform to outline in paragraph 10.C of the DS Form 1037. Firms must submit an individual response in writing and address the two specific criteria cited in this notice with the completed DS Form 1037. Responses must be submitted to the American Embassy, Jabal Amman, for the attention of Mr. Eric Boswell not later than 21 days from date of publication of this notice. Bidding documents will be issued to the qualified contractors on or about November 15, 1985.

Note: DS-1037 Prequalification Forms are available from Mr. Eric Boswell.

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6:30 p.m. - Midnight

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.4120/30	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3688/93	Canadian dollars
	2.6600/10	West German marks
	2.9980/95	Dutch guilders
	2.1845/55	Swiss francs
	53.92/97	Belgian francs
	8.1075/125	French francs
	1793/1795	Italian lire
	215.70/80	Japanese yen
	7.9730/90	Swedish crowns
	7.9100/60	Norwegian crowns
	9.6400/60	Omish crowns
One ounce of gold	326.75/327.25	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities closed easier on profit-taking after the recent gains which took the F.T. 30 share index to a record on Monday. But trading was slack, dealers said. At 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 was down 1.4 points at 1,319.8.

Fleet Holdings ended 12p down at 364 after recommending that shareholders accept the increased £317 million bid from United Newspapers, down 7p at 283. Gold shares closed mixed while North American were firmer with Wall Street.

Government bonds showed scattered gains of 1/4 point but trading was quiet ahead of the U.K. chancellor of the exchequer's economic policy speech due this Thursday.

Among leaders, Hawker lost 10p to 381 ahead of interim results on Wednesday. Allied-Lyons fell 7p on the day to 268 but showed no reaction to news that Elders IXL will clarify whether it plans to bid for Allied in an announcement on Oct. 21.

Harrison and Crosfield lost 11p to 330 after interim figures. Banks firmed with Lloyds up 8p to 427 on rumours that it had sold its stake in Royal Bank of Scotland, 12p better at 286. Oils ended mixed with Shell up 5p at 690 while Brioil paid lost 2p to 126. British Aerospace lost 9p to 451 and Westland 5p to 88 on profit-taking. Stores eased, particularly mail order companies, with Freemans down 4p at 312.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, OCT. 16, 1985

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The daytime brings a plan that can work out very much to your benefit if carried through in a well-rounded fashion, so continue with projects already started.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) An ideal day to keep promises exactly and conscientiously. Tonight study into new interests that fascinate you.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Come to a meeting of minds with a dynamic partner during the day, and then do the work expected of you in the evening.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Use your fine talent to meet any emergencies that may arise. Cooperate with a co-worker and the future will be easier.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You need more amusement so arrange it for the days and weeks ahead, and then get into the tasks ahead of you.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Be more tactful at home in stating policies you wish followed in the morning, then plan the best way to use your finest talents.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Get right into your desk work in the morning, and get it cleared up most efficiently. Entertain guests this evening.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Get your practical affairs more as you want them to be far into the future than into today's tasks well.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) If you go after your goals in a positive way, you can gain them with relative ease. Be more practical.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Plan just how to attain your personal goals over the weekend and make preparations now.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Pursue that individual you want to know better and you soon can become friends. Get your business aims well clarified.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Get into public work with enthusiasm and accomplish a good deal before you concentrate on intimate matters.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Get into that new interest that intrigues you today and work at it vigorously. The evening is fine for gadding about town.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will brook no interference in gaining own desires, but teach early to respect the rights and feelings of others, and then there can be much success during the lifetime. One who will think and never do anything hastily, and will be a fine organizer.

THE Daily Crossword

by C.F. Murray

ACROSS

- Monetary men
- Victory token
- Abominable
- Snowman
- Between
- Marquis and
- viscount
- Hot drink
- River to the
- Caspian
- Regarding
- Of an arm bone
- Phone
- California
- Swiss
- mountains
- Cereal grain
- Former Ger.
- character
- Cal. city
- Topper
- Soft drinks
- Peruvian
- mountain
- Old times
- Furious
- Words of
- remembrance
- Ecole
- attendant
- Maintrain
- Pod seed
- Language
- Guard
- Free from
- taboo, in
- Tahiti
- Alaskan lake
- Nevada
- The Beaver
- State abbr.
- Din
- TV house
- avis
- Islamic devil
- Mild oath
- Cupid
- Validation
- Stoody

DOWN

- Medieval act
- Footpath
- Comic Johnson
- Adman's
- invention
- Rodri or Arp
- Common
- malicious
- Language
- complaint
- Bank business
- Reactor
- Mex. peninsula
- Part of QED
- Poe specialty
- Not well
- Automotive
- pioneer
- So long
- Radar signal
- Moon valley
- Totaled
- Fur
- Global area
- Modesty
- Not as old
- Analysis
- Fresh-water
- Fish
- Upset
- Crust contents
- Selous
- Baseball team
- Adress Eke
- Armed seed
- Race of Norse
- gods
- Mine car
- Pedestal figure
- Round part
- Foot
- Jesus's ship
- Lacinate
- Whirlpool
- man
- mouse?

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

DRAB HOWE SPOT
BOME LAMAR HAGE
ADRE ELMITO RABIA
MENTIONED RABIA
ROSTER AREAS CITY
AND CHIT NON
MICE REAR TRANE
ADORE IN THE MANGER
TERRAN LATE VERT
TAYLOR SYVA
ELIA PIERCE STRIP
LONE ANGIE RABIA
A NEW SCALE DEAR
PIET REIA YENS

300 million people living in 36 nations earn less than U.S. 60 cents daily

GENEVA (OPECNA) — There are 300 million people living in 36 least developed countries (LDCs) whose per capita income is 60 cents a day, a U.N. conference was told here.

The average aid level for the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) countries is now 0.08 per cent of their Gross National Product (GNP). Only six of them — Denmark, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Belgium and France — have managed to reach 0.15 per cent.

Of the largest donor nations in terms of money, the United States provides 0.04 per cent, Britain 0.09 per cent and Japan 0.07 per cent.

The two-week meetings, which concluded here Sunday, were attended by 150 states and made a mid-term review of the programme of action for LDCs adopted in Paris in 1981. It called on richer states to devote 0.15 per cent of their GNP to official development assistance.

A final declaration adopted at the conference here was described by some Third World delegations as "not tough enough". They also lamented the call issued to developing countries to "do more" to improve their situation.

"It is all part of the current fashion that the poor are poor because they want to be so," complained one Third World delegate.

The United States dissociated itself from the final document, stating that the aid targets "set up false expectations." Britain also rejected the targets.

A spokesman for the LDC group, Mr. Ataul Karim of Bangladesh, said it was not a question of scarcity of resources, but a lack of political will.

Norwegian Deputy Foreign Minister Torbjørn Fmeysnes, who chaired the meeting, called its outcome "a very small, but a further step."

The Netherlands announced it would not seek repayment of some \$10 million it is owed by LDCs.

French president defends Third World financial views

BRASILIA (R) — French President Francois Mitterrand has joined Brazilian officials in asserting Third World debt nations should not repay their loans at the cost of poverty, unemployment and recession.

Mr. Mitterrand pledged in a visit here to defend Brazil's interests and said it was indefensible that developing nations should face no other options than recession or stagnation in the next 15 or 20 years.

"There is no durable solution to the foreign debt problem without a high and sustained growth of the world economy and reforms in the international monetary system," Mr. Mitterrand said at a banquet Monday night.

Brazilian President Jose Sarney said Brazil, the Third World's biggest debtor, "could not pay the debt with the orthodox adjustment mechanisms of market laws, because it would mean to pay with poverty, unemployment and economic recession."

Mr. Mitterrand and Mr. Sarney held a 90-minute private meeting Monday, a few hours after the French president's arrival for a four-day visit to Brazil, the first by a Western head of state since the country returned to civilian rule in March.

Dubai, India sign traffic agreement for new airline

DUBAI (R) — The emirate of Dubai Tuesday signed the first bilateral air agreement for its new airline, Emirates Air, giving it landing rights in Bombay and New Delhi, airline officials said.

Under the agreement, Dubai and India will equally share 4,500 seats weekly between the emirate and the two Indian cities.

Dubai announced plans for its own airline in May amid dissatisfaction over Gulf Air's service to the emirate. Airline sources said it will begin service on Oct. 25

to both India and Pakistan, where it has an "operating permit" to land in Karachi.

The agreement with India follows one reached in Bahrain on Sunday between India and the regional carrier Gulf Air, under which Gulf Air's flights were cut to 26 weekly from 30 between India and Gulf ports. Bahrain aviation sources said.

The Dubai airline also plans to serve Kuwait, although landing rights there are still under negotiation.

Japan unveils plan to fuel demand

TOKYO (R) — Japan Tuesday adopted a plan to stimulate domestic spending and officials said the measures could increase imports by \$2 billion a year.

The plan would pump an extra 3,120 billion yen (\$14.4 billion) into the economy over the next 12 months and lift the Gross National Product (GNP) by an estimated 4,100 billion yen (\$19 billion). The Economic Planning Agency (EPA) said this represents 1.3 per cent of 1985 GNP.

The package was put together in an atmosphere of urgency over the past two months as protectionist sentiment climbed in the U.S. Congress. It was announced four days before Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone leaves for the United States.

The aim was to make Japanese spend more freely, thereby encouraging imports while soaking up goods that might otherwise have gone to swell Japan's giant export surplus.

Most of the extra spending,

some 1,800 billion yen (\$8 billion), was allocated for public works to improve the often dreary environment in which many Japanese now live.

In addition the plan provides for improved housing loans, the scrapping of credit restrictions on cars and colour television sets and bigger investment in public utilities like electricity, gas and sewerage.

The EPA forecast of a \$2 billion boost to imports was viewed doubtfully by some foreign economists.

"It could possibly add up to this but the nature of the package means any increase would mainly be in primary products rather than manufactured goods which is the real name of the game," said an official at one foreign embassy.

In the year ended last March,

Japan's imports totalled \$122.3 billion. Its export surplus against the United States reached \$37 billion.

The package provided for an extra 1,000 billion yen (\$4.6 billion) to be spent by electricity and gas companies over the next three years on projects such as improving safety and burying some of the power lines which festoon Japanese landscapes.

To pay for this companies will be allowed a freer hand in raising loans. Municipal governments will be allowed to seek loans abroad for public works.

State-owned land worth about 400 billion yen (\$1.9 billion) will be freed for private housing and urban development. Private developers will be encouraged to build facilities like sewerage systems and recoup the cost from associated housing investment.

Another inducement to spend more was provided by a plan to increase the number of Japanese workers enjoying a five-day week. Officials said it was hoped to

increase the average number of days off in a year from the present 103 — including weekend and public holidays — to about 113. This would be the same as in North America.

Some of the government funds required will be raised in the next national budget for the fiscal year starting next April. But government sources said there would be no new government bond issues in view of the already heavy budget deficit.

The package comes as a follow-up to a three-year programme of measures to open up Japanese markets to foreign goods and services.

Since last month congressional fire has been somewhat soothed by the increase in the value of the yen following concerted intervention on foreign exchange markets.

During the day Mr. Nakasone received U.S. ambassador, Mr. Mike Mansfield, who warned him that the lull in protectionist demands might only be temporary.

FAO expects record cereal output, stocks

ROME (AP) — The U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) continued favourable weather in major producing areas, on Monday raised its forecast of world cereal production in 1985 to a record 1,884 million tons.

The figure represents an increase of eight million tons above last month's estimate and 39 million tons more than the previous year.

In a monthly food outlook report, FAO said crop prospects have improved in western and eastern Africa. As a result, 1985 harvests will be much better than last year in most of the previously drought-affected countries, FAO said and some of those countries may even be able to export food.

In southern and eastern Africa, where harvests are now complete, surpluses are estimated at 1.3 million tons, the report said. Exportable surpluses are also possible

in several other previously drought-affected countries, it added.

FAO forecasts global carryover stocks at the end of the 1985-86 season will rise by 50 million to a record 358 million tons, with most of the increase in coarse grain holdings of the United States.

With abundant harvests and no major regional crop failures anticipated, world cereal trade is forecast to fall sharply in 1985-86 to 194 million tons, a decline of 11 per cent from the previous year, the report said.

Better harvests in the Soviet Union will lead to reduced cereal imports, while the shipments of most major exporters, in particular the United States, are expected to decline, it said.

FAO estimates 1985-86 sugar production will decrease by 2.5 per cent to 97.8 million tons raw value, reflecting reductions in

Brazil, Cuba and the European Community (EC) and most countries of Eastern Europe.

The current forecast of supply and demand indicates that world sugar consumption in 1986 may exceed production by more than one million tons, the report said.

It added: "Should this forecast be realised, then for the first time in four years global consumption in 1986 would exceed production. However, this would not reduce significantly the large stocks which currently overhang the market."

An increase of two per cent is forecast in world cassava production in 1985 to 131 million tons of roots, mostly due to higher output in Africa.

In addition to good weather, FAO attributed some of the 1.7 million ton increase to effective pest control programme and the introduction of pest-resistant,

high-yielding varieties.

In Latin America the production of cassava is expected to increase only slightly to nearly 28 million tons, but "food consumption of cassava in many countries may increase in 1985 as lower real wages are tending to encourage a shift toward traditional starches," the report said.

World trade in processed cassava (tapioca) is forecast at about 7.6 million tons in 1985, up five per cent from last year due in part to its price competitiveness in the feed market.

World production of milk continues to exceed demand, despite measures by major producing countries to curb output, the report added.

World market prices of milk and dairy products have declined and are expected to remain low, according to the report.

Omani revenue increases as oil production rises

MUSCAT (AP) — Government revenues in the Sultanate of Oman for the first half of 1985 showed a "marked increase" over the corresponding period in 1984 because of rising oil production, the Omani central bank reported Monday.

Revenue in the January-June period this year was 769 million riyals (\$2.26 billion), representing a 13.7 per cent increase over the total in the same period a year earlier, said the report, which was distributed by the Oman News Agency.

Oil production in the first half of this year was 12.8 per cent higher than its level in the corresponding 1984 period, according to the report.

The report did not give the actual oil production figure.

But Omani Oil Minister Said bin Ahmad Al Shamsari, said earlier Monday that the sultanate had increased its daily production to

500,000 barrels per day this year from 450,000.

The sultanate boosted oil output to help cover expenditures for its development plans, the minister said. The country starts a three-year development plan in 1986.

According to the central bank report, the sultanate's non-oil sector provided 21 per cent more revenue in the first six months of this year than in the same period of 1984. The report attributed the increase, in part, to higher taxation.

Because of the improvement in revenues, the government's deficit narrowed by two-thirds, according to the report.

It said the deficit in the January-June period this year was 45 million riyals (\$132 million), compared to 132 million riyals (\$388 million) a year earlier.

Trade deficit worries U.S. business leaders

HOT SPRINGS, Virginia (AP) — Many U.S. business chiefs say they are extremely nervous about the American economy and consider the enormous U.S. trade deficit the single biggest reason for their nervousness.

"It cuts right across all industries and all products," said Mr. Ruben Mettler, chairman of TRW Inc. "When we compete with exports, business is weak; when we compete directly with imports, it is extremely difficult."

Mr. Mettler heads the Business Council, which met over the weekend to discuss the business climate with leaders of government and industry.

In its fall assessment of the economy, the council forecast another 15 months of slow growth without a recession.

But the chief topic of conversation was clearly the nation's trade imbalance — which the council's economic advisers say will

reach \$133 billion this year and \$141 billion in 1986.

When Deputy Treasury Secretary Richard G. Darman came to discuss President Ronald Reagan's tax overhaul bill many corporate officers suggested they were more interested in talking about trade than taxes.

"The value of the dollar and the trade deficit is a bigger issue by far," Mr. Mettler told reporters.

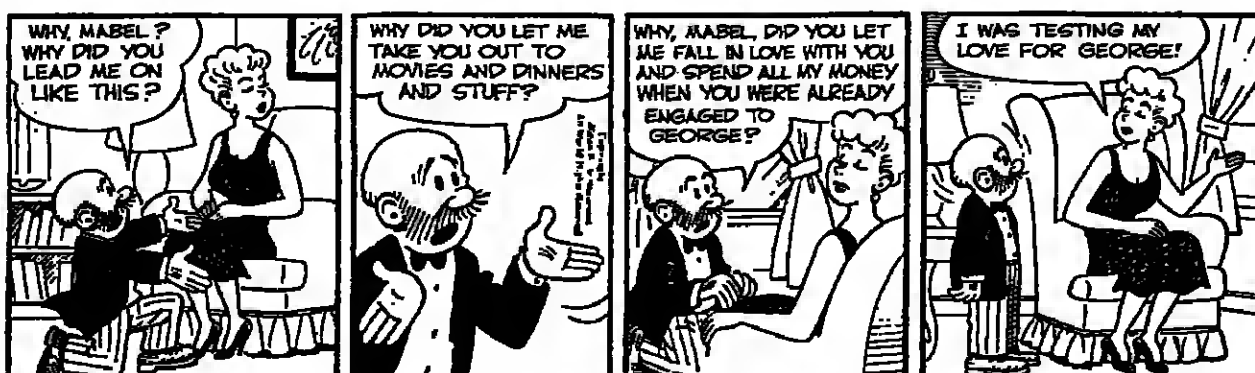
Mr. James Robinson III, chairman of American Express Co., said the trade imbalance has had a "tremendous drag" throughout the American economy, pulling down economic growth by at least two full percentage points.

After booming along at a growth rate of 6.8 per cent in 1984, growth will be down to 2.1 per cent for all of 1985, then improve only slightly to 2.5 per cent in 1986, according to the Business Council's economic forecast.

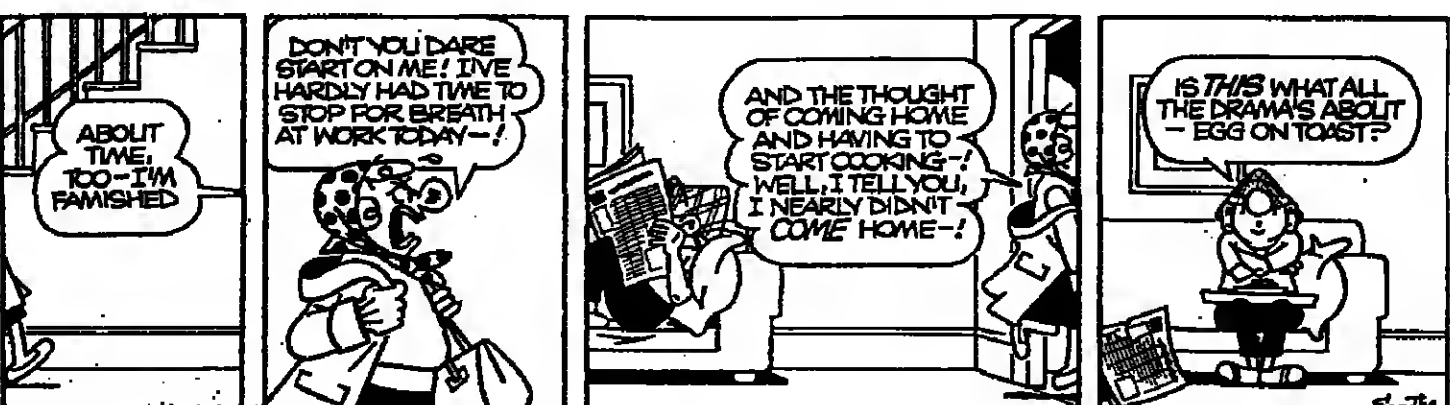
Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff

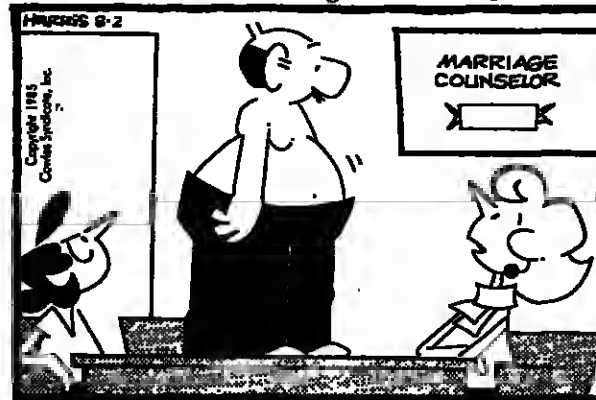


Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



JUMBLE.

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

VEFER

SNABI

TEACKS

BELTOG

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: BYLAW GRIME KIDNAP DOUBLE

Answer: What a game of golf sometimes is — A GOOD WALK RUINED

Black South African poet condemned to hang on Friday

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Black South African poet Benjamin Mokohe lost a long battle against the gallows Tuesday and was condemned to hang on Friday for the 1962 murder of a policeman.

A lawyer for Mokohe, 28, said she had been told by the government that President P.W. Botha had rejected an appeal for a reprieve and the poet would be executed at Pretoria Central Prison on Friday morning.

Mokohe, whose case attracted world attention and brought calls for a reprieve, won a last-minute stay of execution on Aug. 20 as Mr. Botha pondered whether a death sentence should be ordered.

Mokohe had been found guilty of killing a black policeman, Philipus Nkomo, near Pretoria.

The trial was accompanied by unexpected twists, with Mokohe initially denying involvement in the murder but later saying he was acting under threats from the African National Congress (ANC).

guerrilla group fighting white minority rule.

Britain, among others, has called on Pretoria to spare the life of the poet, who had lived in Soweto township near Johannesburg before his arrest.

Staff at President Botha's office were not immediately available for comment.

In a separate development, police said Tuesday that a young white policeman had been suspended while the force investigated the death of a 13-year-old boy at Ateridgeville township, near Pretoria, on Sunday.

A police spokesman said the boy, Moses Mope, died of head injuries. Witnesses quoted by the local press alleged that the boy

had been kicked by four white men while on his way to church and died later in hospital.

The spokesman said a murder investigation was underway but would not say whether charges were being prepared against the suspended policeman.

Police headquarters earlier said they had found the charred body of a black man at the shanty town of Little Soweto, in the troubled eastern Cape province, one of two regions put under emergency rule on July 21 to combat mass unrest.

The past 21 months of protests in the country's segregated townships have resulted in more than 750 deaths, mostly blacks.

Meanwhile in Melbourne, Australian trade union leader Bill Richardson told Reuters Tuesday that the unions will start a week of industrial action aimed at South Africa on Monday as a protest against apartheid.

Airline, transport, telecommunications and building unions will head the attack on trade with South Africa, according to Richardson, Assistant Secretary of the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU).

He said sporadic industrial action would continue beyond the week of protest, details of which would be announced later this week.

Richardson said shipping bans on South African goods and disruption of telecommunications services and the weekly South African Airways service to Australia were probable.

The Australian government said last month it would close its Johannesburg trade post and ban Kruggerand imports, loans to South African firms and fuel and computer hardware sales.

Trade between Australia and South Africa was worth about \$240 million in the 1984/85 financial year.

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Nikolai Tikhonov

Tikhonov dropped from politburo

MOSCOW (R) — Former Soviet Prime Minister Nikolai Tikhonov was dropped from the Kremlin's ruling politburo Tuesday and the new planning chief was given junior membership. TASS news agency reported.

The changes, which also affect new Prime Minister Nikolai Ryzhkov, were approved at a one-day meeting of the Communist Party Central Committee.

Mr. Tikhonov's departure had been certain since the 80-year-old premier was retired late last month and replaced by Mr. Ryzhkov, the party's secretary in charge of the economy.

Mr. Ryzhkov was relieved of his secretary's post Tuesday because of his new post, TASS said. No successor was named.

The politburo now has 12 full members. The committee also appointed the new chief of the State Planning Agency, Nikolai Talyzin, as a candidate, or non-voting member of the politburo.

The replacement Monday of long-serving Gosplan chief Nikolai Babakov by Mr. Talyzin was the latest in a series of appointments of younger technocrats to top party and government jobs made since Mikhail Gorbachev became party chief last March.

Mr. Talyzin brought the number of candidate members to five. With his elevation to the head of the Gosplan agency Monday and the politburo Tuesday, Talyzin, 56, has leapt from relative obscurity to the senior ranks of the leadership.

Italian professor wins Nobel Economics Prize

STOCKHOLM (R) — Italian-born Professor Franco Modigliani won the 1985 Nobel Memorial Prize for Economics, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced Tuesday.

Prof. Modigliani, 67, was honored for "his pioneering analyses of saving and of financial markets."

Modigliani is a professor at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

The academy said he had been rewarded for achievements concerning "the construction and development of the life-cycle hypothesis of household saving and the formulation of the Modigliani-Miller Theorems of the valuation of firms and of capital costs."

The scientific value of his work was not limited to the formulation of theorems but was also important for the introduction of a new method of analysis within corporate finance, it said.

The academy said Modigliani's "life-cycle" hypothesis, based on the idea that people save for their old age, had proved to be an ideal tool for analyses of the effects of different pension systems.

The Modigliani-Miller Theorems, developed by the new Nobel laureate and Merton Miller, had had important implications for the theory of investment decisions, it said.

The first Modigliani-Miller Theorem, presented in 1958, concerned the question of how the market value of a firm is affected by the volume and structure of its

debts.

A later theorem stated that the value of company depended on its dividend policy.

Modigliani, born in Rome in 1918, obtained a doctorate in jurisprudence from the University of Rome in 1939.

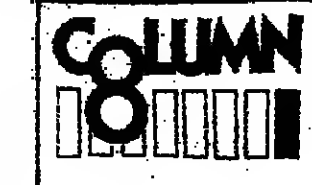
He has an honorary doctorate from the University of Chicago and has worked at the Catholic University of Louvain, in Belgium, and the University of Bergamo, in Italy.

The Nobel Institute, in a brief statement, said Tuesday this year's 1.8 million crown (\$226,000) Nobel Literature Prize is to be awarded on Oct. 17 by the Swedish Academy.

The prize is named after the 19th Century Swedish inventor of dynamite, Alfred Nobel, who in his will said it should be awarded to "the person who shall have produced in the field of literature the most outstanding work of an idealistic tendency."

Even though no list of candidates is ever published, scholars are tipping the South African novelist Nadine Gordimer among the front-runners this year, especially if the academy decides to give a political tinge to the 1985 award.

The 18-member body traditionally keeps its deliberations secret until its secretary, Professor Lars Gyllenstein, reads out the official announcement at 1200 GMT on Thursday in the academy premises above the Stockholm Stock Exchange.



Denver jail puts homosexuals in gray

DENVER (AP) — Prisoners in the Denver county jail wear green if they're awaiting trial on felony charges and blue if they're accused of misdemeanors. Homosexuals, in a policy assailed by homosexual activists, wear gray. Gray uniforms also are issued to prisoners who have histories of violence or psychological problems. Officials say, adding that the colour coding allows guards to identify inmates in the wrong place. In addition, according to inmate service programme director Ted Peak, the uniforms help guards protect homosexuals, who, he said, should be separate from other prisoners to prevent assaults. "The prisoners' grievance is much stronger than our formal system of identification," Peak said. "If someone is an active homosexual, it doesn't take long for the rest of the jail to find out." Normally, about 5 per cent of the 1,000 prisoners wear gray, officials said.

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Commonwealth leaders seek to avert clash with Britain on South Africa

NASSAU, Bahamas (R) — Commonwealth leaders, preparing for this week's summit here, are seeking to avert a clash between Britain and other member-nations on the divisive issue of South African economic sanctions.

Prime Minister Bob Hawke of Australia, who last week sharply criticized Britain's rejection of mandatory trade sanctions against the apartheid regime, Tuesday struck a more conciliatory note.

"No one, including myself, has come to this conference with a view to trying to isolate or attack Britain," Mr. Hawke told reporters at a news conference two days before the start of the Commonwealth heads of state meeting.

South Africa, however, is virtually alone in the 49-nation club in opposing mandatory trade restrictions, and that has threatened to upset the delicate process by which Commonwealth leaders normally carve out consensus decisions.

A campaign for tougher economic sanctions, spearheaded by Australia, Canada, India and from Africa states, is expected to culminate in all other heads on the agenda for the biennial summit, which ends Oct. 16-22.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has consistently claimed that punitive economic measures would have devastating impact on South African blacks and only stiffen Pretoria's res-

istance to the reform of its racial separation policies.

But Commonwealth opponents contend that Britain is more concerned about protecting its \$14 billion investment in South Africa and continuing to benefit from lucrative trade ties.

In an effort to defuse a potential crisis, Commonwealth leaders have begun searching for a compromise package of limited sanctions that would be more palatable to Britain yet retain some of the potency demanded by barm-dimers, diplomats said.

Mr. Hawke Tuesday unveiled parts of an Australian initiative that may gain British support. The plan calls on South Africa to set a timetable for the dismantling of the apartheid racial system, and provides for the establishment of a committee to develop anti-apartheid strategy.

Commonwealth Secretary-General Shridath Ramphal, in a move aimed at assuaging British fears, said Tuesday that economic penalties suggested thus far by other members "fall far short of an all-out economic boycott" of white-ruled South Africa.

He said Commonwealth nations are calling for a ban on new investment, bank loans and sale of gold Kruggerand coins, a halt in commercial flights to and from South Africa and a boycott of the nation's agricultural goods.

Although Mrs. Thatcher is expected to persist in her staunch opposition to most of those mea-

sures, she may be willing to approve one or two of the steps as a symbolic gesture, diplomats said.

Canadian Prime Minister Brian Mulroney, another recent convert to the policy of economic sanctions, is due to unveil his initiative Wednesday at a meeting of the Commonwealth Press Union.

This is the second time in two months that Britain has come under fire from its allies for stubborn resistance to impose penalties on South Africa.

Britain agreed in late September to follow the rest of the European Community in adopting military and political sanctions but steadfastly refused to endorse economic sanctions.

Meanwhile in London, visiting Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi called Monday night for a quick end to "intolerable conditions" under apartheid in South Africa.

Mr. Gandhi, in a speech at a banquet given by Mrs. Thatcher, said the Commonwealth had helped many nations fight for freedom. South Africa's "intolerable conditions must be ended, and soon," he said.

The Indian leader, here on a two-day visit, Monday held what he described as "satisfactory and warm" talks with Mrs. Thatcher.

Both Prime Ministers are anxious to soothe recent irritations between their countries, and Mrs. Thatcher took the unusual step of greeting Mr. Gandhi at the airport rather than welcoming him at her official London residence.

But in his dinner speech, Mr. Gandhi referred to two issues which are thorns in the side of their relationship — Britain's opposition to sanctions against South Africa and what he regards as Mrs. Thatcher's over-zealous attitude towards Indian extremists living here.

Mr. Gandhi has predicted that Mrs. Thatcher will be isolated at the Commonwealth summit by refusing to take economic sanctions against South Africa.

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